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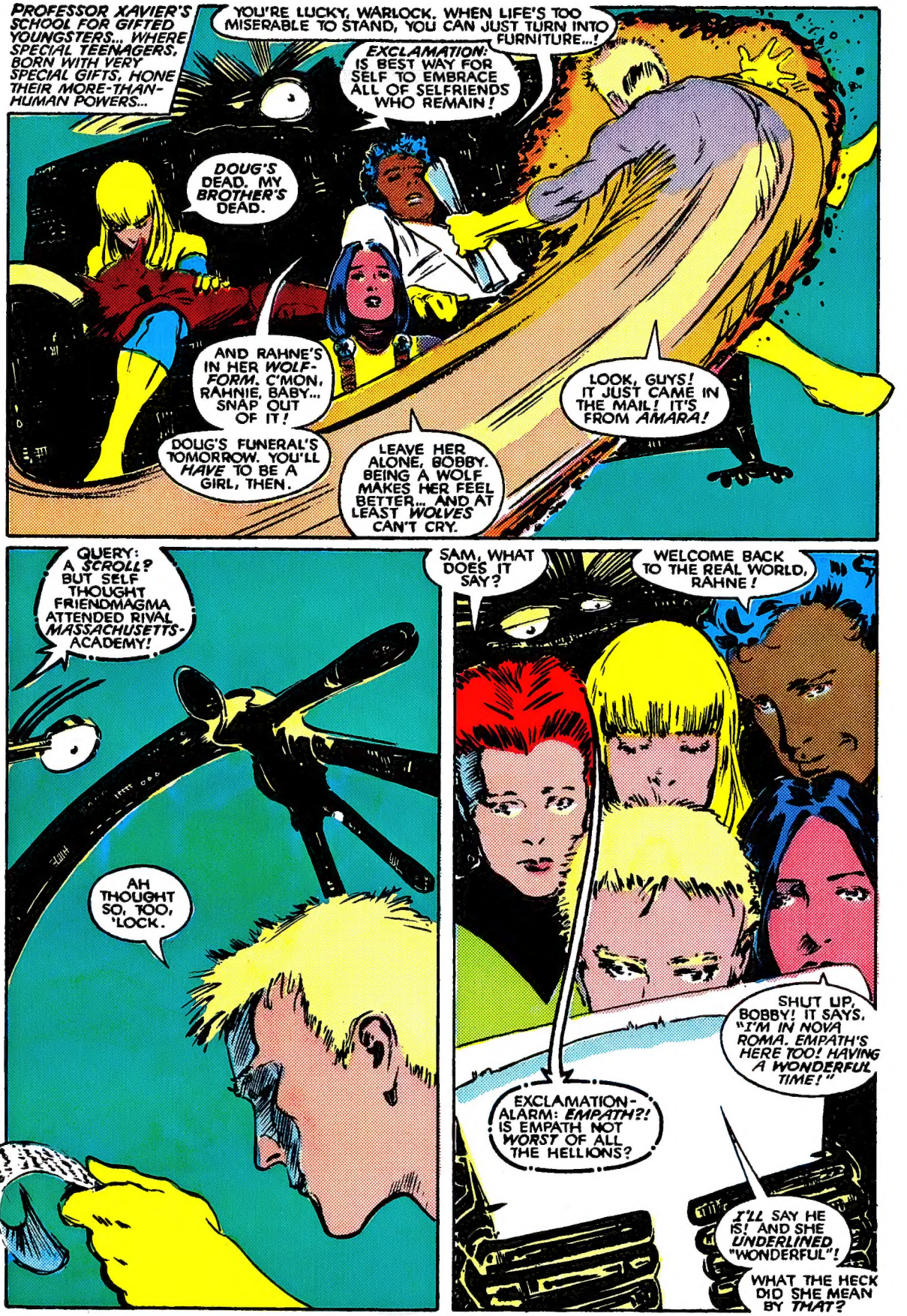
PROFESSOR XAVIER'S SCHOOL FOR GIFTED YOUNGSTERS... WHERE SPECIAL TEENAGERS, BORN WITH VERY SPECIAL GIFTS, HONE THEIR MORE-THAN-HUMAN POWERS...
YOU'RE LUCKY, WARLOCK. WHEN LIFE'S TOO MISERABLE TO STAND, YOU CAN JUST TURN INTO FURNITURE...!
EXCLAMATION: IS BEST WAY FOR SELF TO EMBRACE ALL OF SELFRIENDS WHO REMAIN!
DOUG'S DEAD. MY BROTHER'S DEAD.
AND RAHNE'S IN HER WOLF-FORM. C'MON, RAHNIE, BABY... SNAP OUT OF IT!
DOUG'S FUNERAL'S TOMORROW. YOU'LL HAVE TO BE A GIRL, THEN.
LEAVE HER ALONE, BOBBY. BEING A WOLF MAKES HER FEEL BETTER... AND AT LEAST WOLVES CAN'T CRY.
LOOK, GUYS! IT JUST CAME IN THE MAIL! IT'S FROM AMARA!
QUERY: A SCROLL? BUT SELF THOUGHT FRIENDMAGMA ATTENDED RIVAL MASSACHUSETTS-ACADEMY!
AH THOUGHT SO, TOO, 'LOCK.
SAM, WHAT DOES IT SAY?
WELCOME BACK TO THE REAL WORLD, RAHNE!
SHUT UP, BOBBY! IT SAYS, "I'M IN NOVA ROMA. EMPATH'S HERE TOO! HAVING A WONDERFUL TIME!"
EXCLAMATION-ALARM: EMPATH?! IS EMPATH NOT WORST OF ALL THE HELLIONS?
I'LL SAY HE IS! AND SHE UNDERLINED "WONDERFUL"!
WHAT THE HECK DID SHE MEAN BY THAT?

THE MASSACHUSETTS ACADEMY...
TO BUILD A FIRE
AND SHE'S ONLY A NEW MUTANT... A MUTIE!
GIVE UP, MAGMA!
HEY, EMPATH, WE'RE GONNA CREAM YOUR GIRL FRIEND! THIS PRACTICE SESSION'LL BE OVER 'FORE IT BEGINS!
IT'S SIX AGAINST ONE!
HEY, MUTIE, GIVE IT UP!
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM, TAROT? I'M NOT A NEW MUTANT, ANYMORE! I LEFT XAVIER'S SCHOOL BEHIND ME...
CREATED BY CHRIS CLAREMONT & BOB McLEOD
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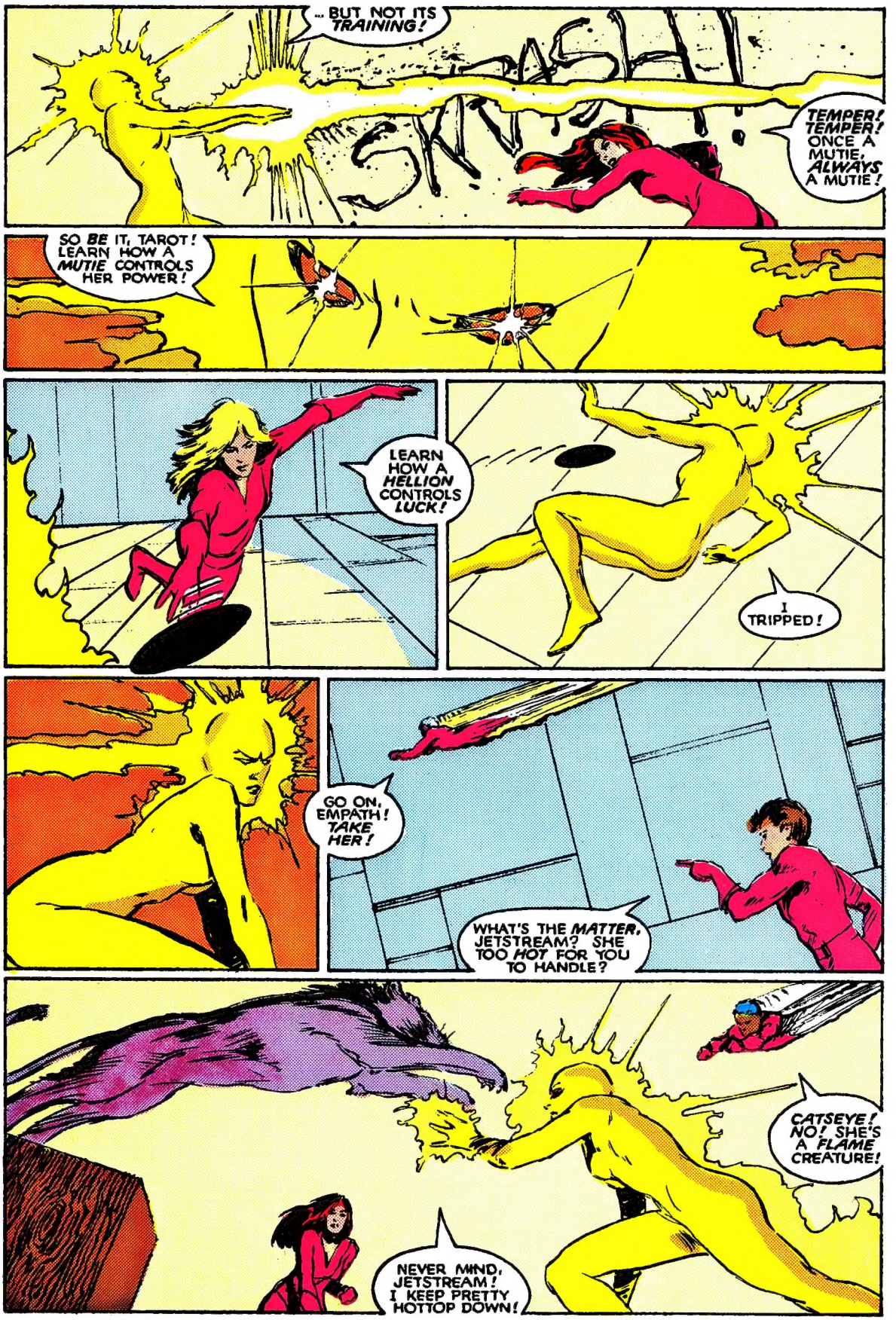
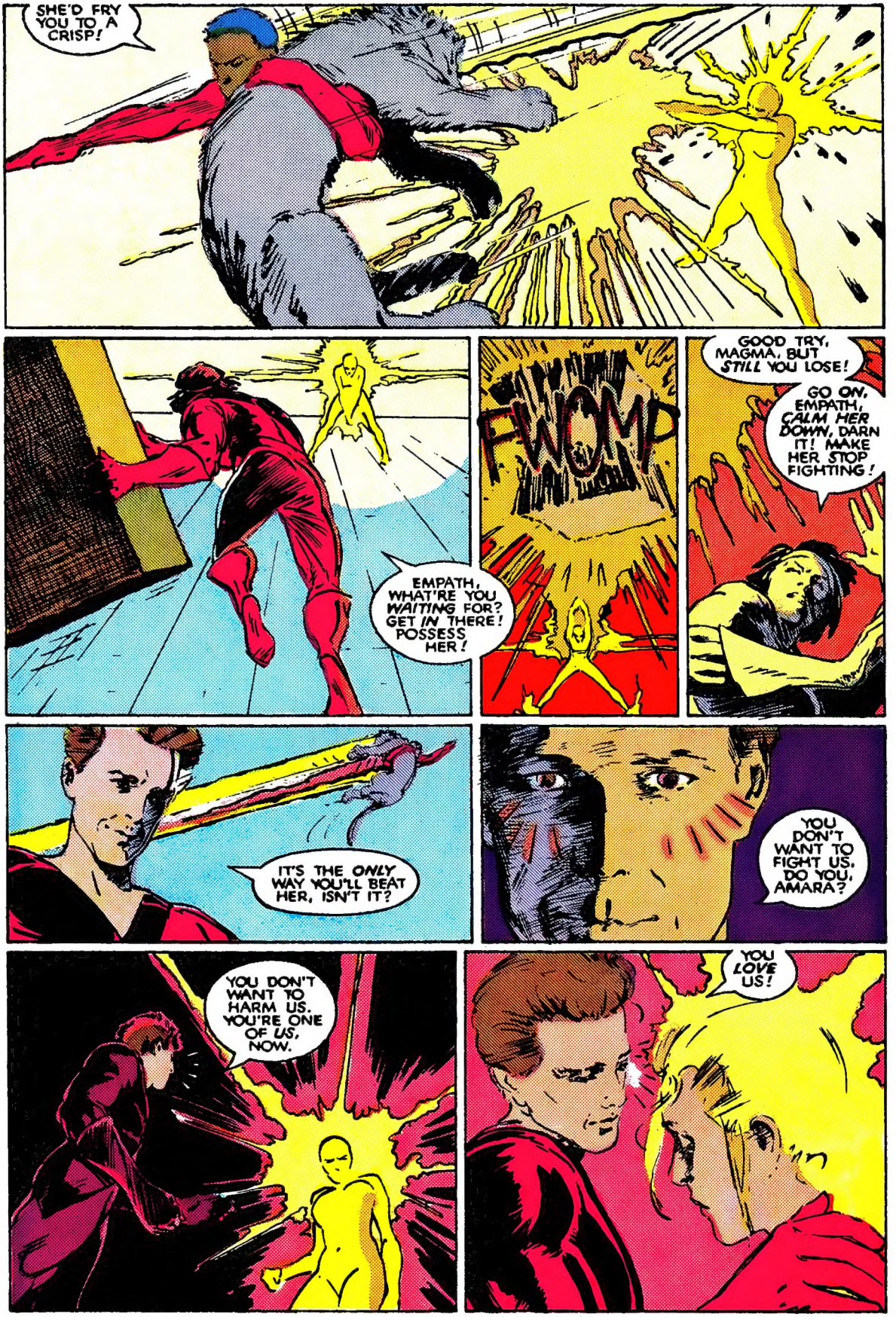
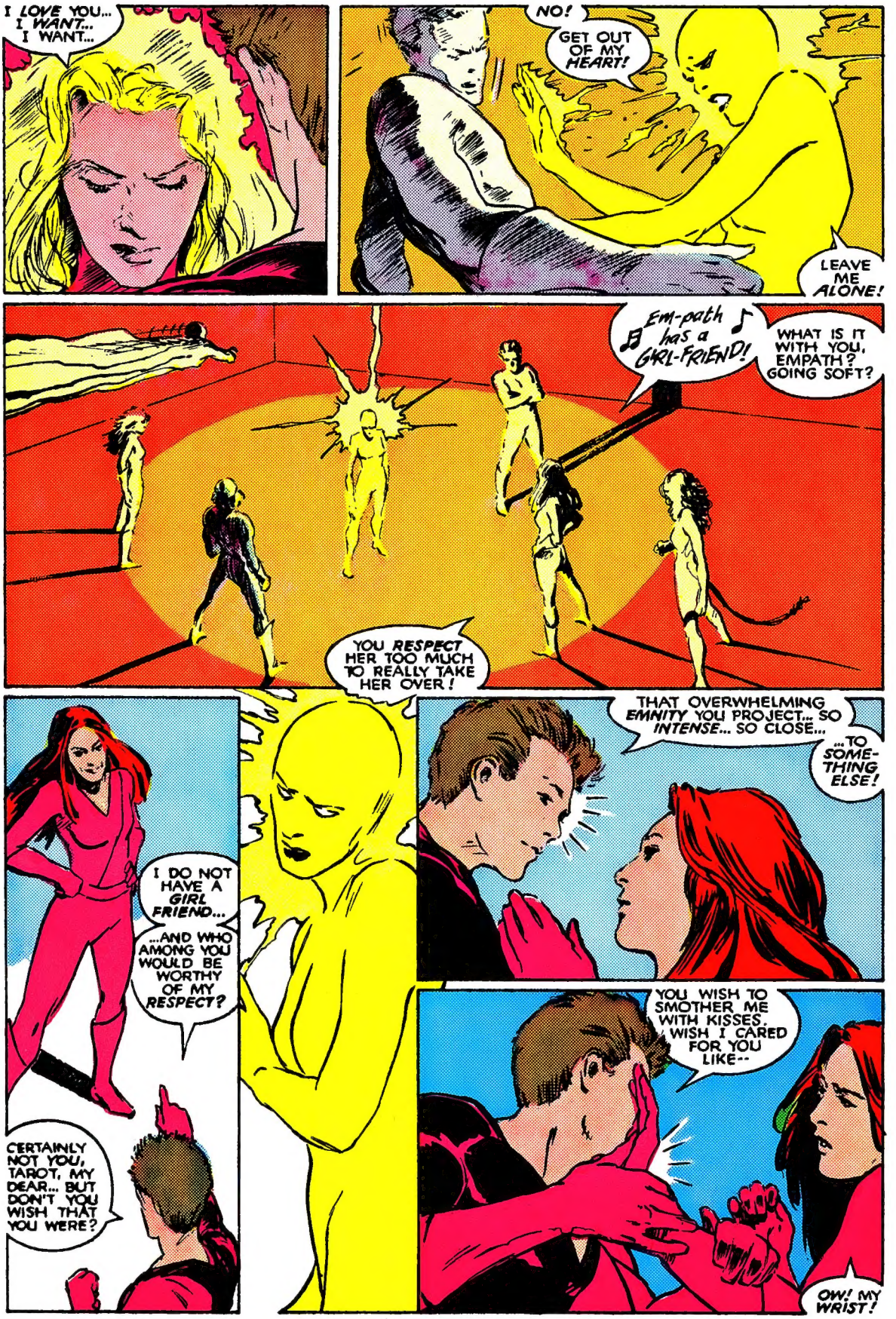
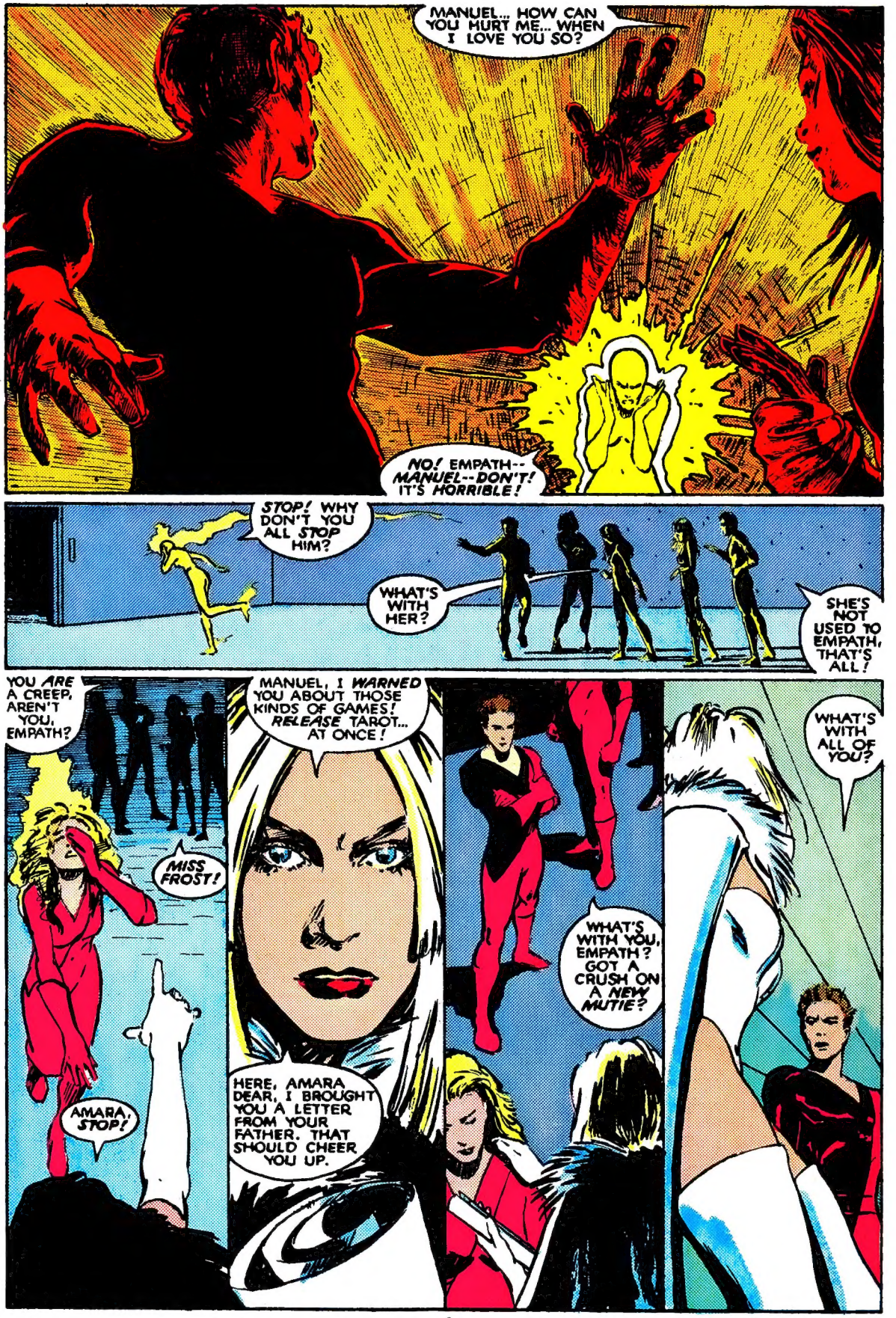
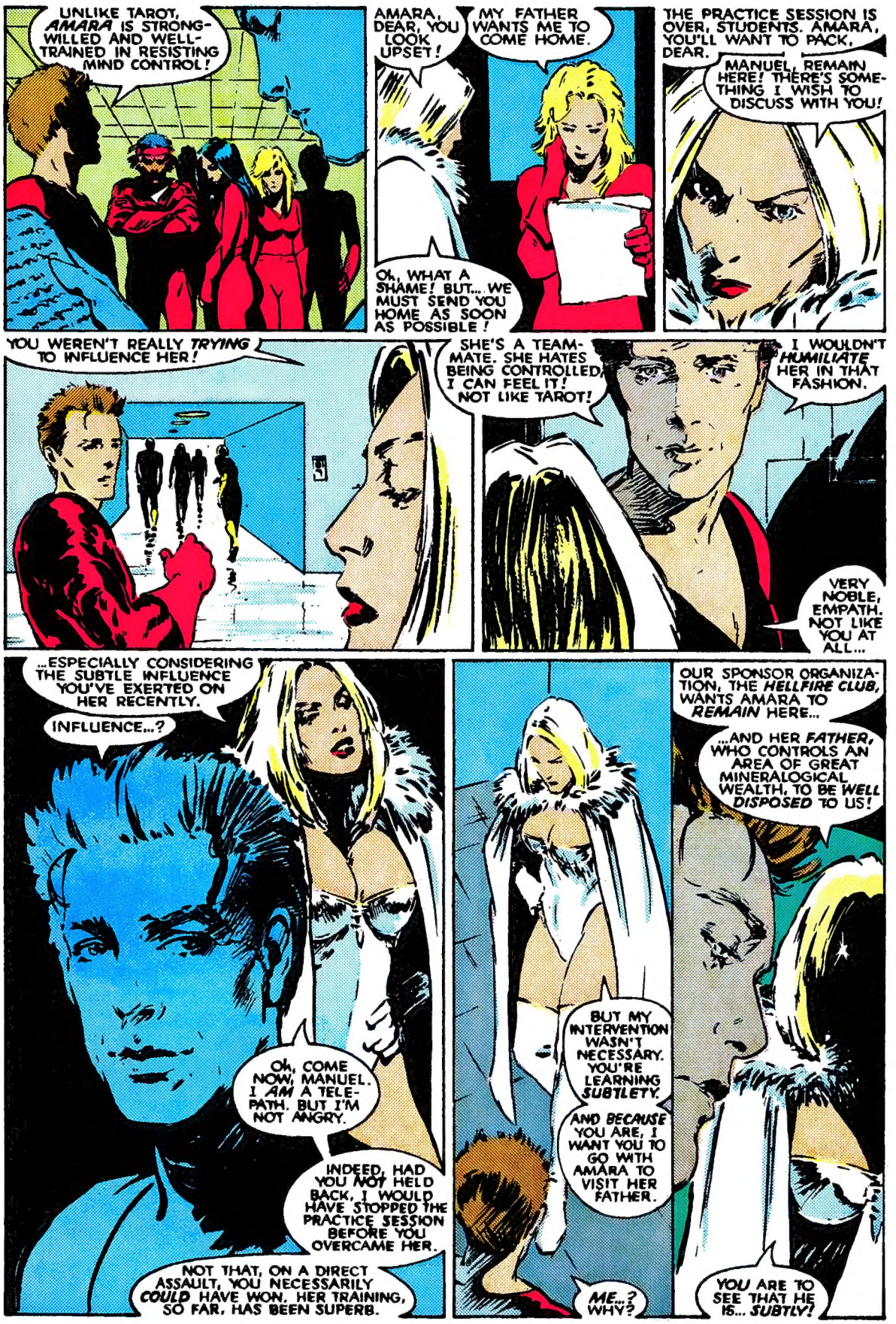
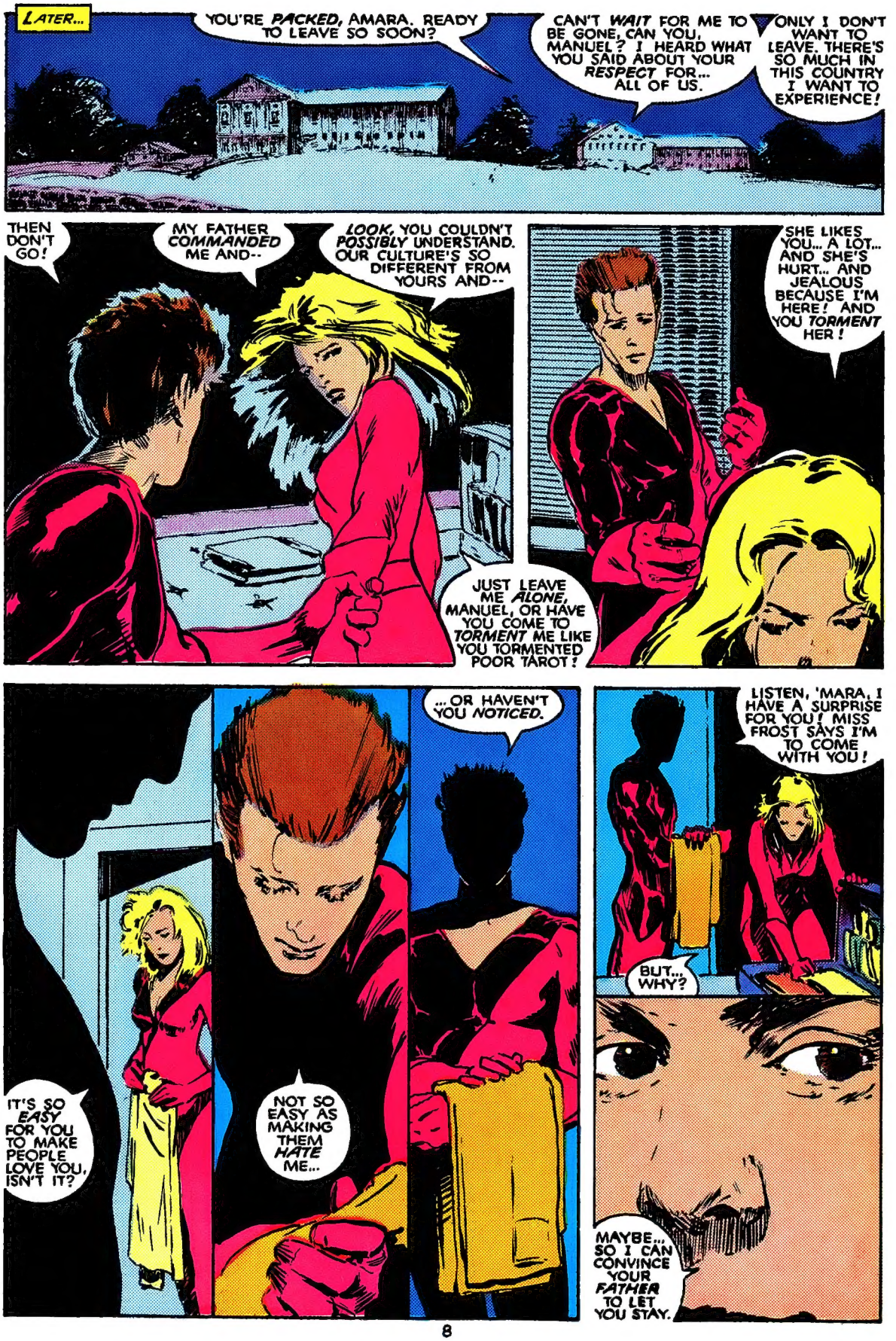

... BUT NOT ITS TRAINING!
SMASH
TEMPER! TEMPER! ONCE A MUTIE, ALWAYS A MUTIE!
SO BE IT, TAROT! LEARN HOW A MUTIE CONTROLS HER POWER!
LEARN HOW A HELLION CONTROLS LUCK!
I TRIPPED!
GO ON, EMPATH! TAKE HER!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, JETSTREAM? SHE TOO HOT FOR YOU TO HANDLE?
CATSEYE! NO! SHE'S A FLAME CREATURE!
NEVER MIND, JETSTREAM! I KEEP PRETTY HOTTOP DOWN!

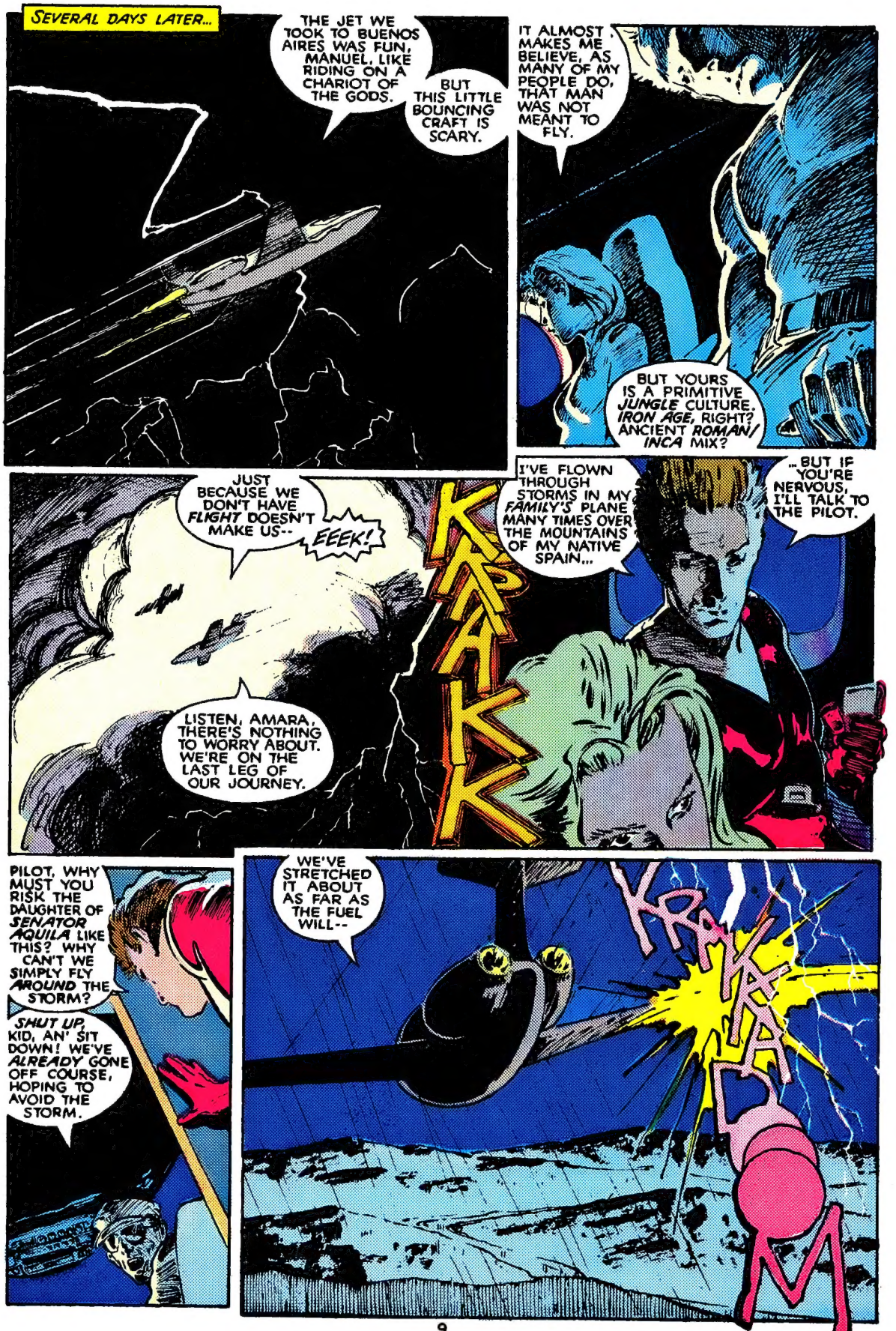

SHE'D FRY YOU TO A CRISP!
EMPATH, WHAT'RE YOU *WAITING* FOR? GET *IN* THERE! POSSESS HER!
FWOMP
GOOD TRY, MAGMA, BUT *STILL* YOU LOSE!
GO ON, EMPATH, *CALM HER DOWN*, DARN IT! MAKE HER STOP FIGHTING!
IT'S THE *ONLY* WAY YOU'LL BEAT HER, ISN'T IT?
YOU DON'T WANT TO FIGHT US, DO YOU, AMARA?
YOU DON'T WANT TO HARM US. YOU'RE ONE OF *US*, NOW.
YOU *LOVE* US!

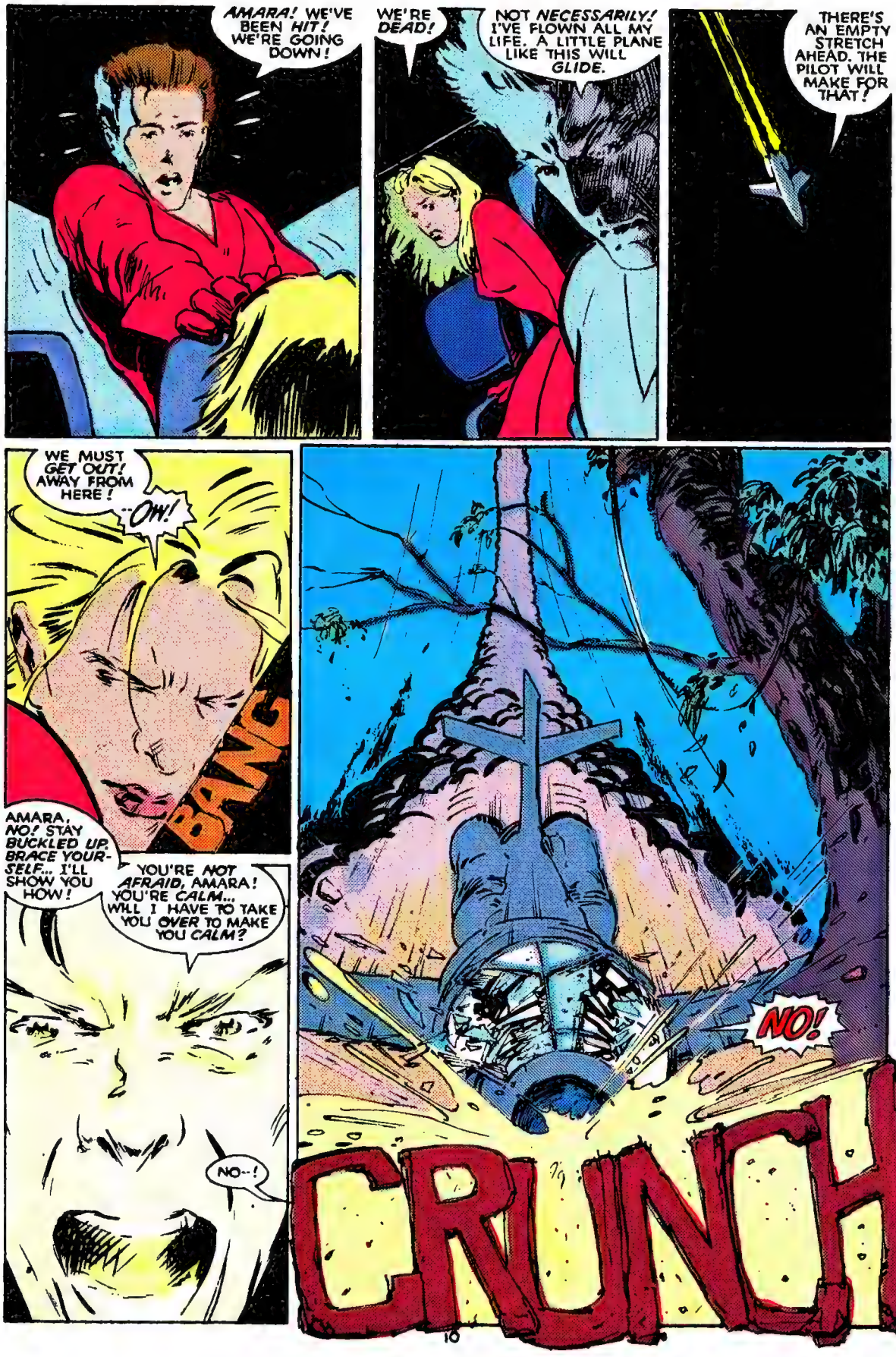

I LOVE YOU... I WANT... I WANT...
NO!
GET OUT OF MY HEART!
LEAVE ME ALONE!
Em-path has a GIRL-FRIEND!
WHAT IS IT WITH YOU, EMPATH? GOING SOFT?
YOU RESPECT HER TOO MUCH TO REALLY TAKE HER OVER!
I DO NOT HAVE A GIRL FRIEND...
...AND WHO AMONG YOU WOULD BE WORTHY OF MY RESPECT?
CERTAINLY NOT YOU, TAROT, MY DEAR... BUT DON'T YOU WISH THAT YOU WERE?
THAT OVERWHELMING EMNITY YOU PROJECT... SO INTENSE... SO CLOSE...
...TO SOME-THING ELSE!
YOU WISH TO SMOTHER ME WITH KISSES. WISH I CARED FOR YOU LIKE--
OW! MY WRIST!


MANUEL... HOW CAN YOU HURT ME... WHEN I LOVE YOU SO?
NO! EMPATH-- MANUEL--DON'T! IT'S HORRIBLE!
STOP! WHY DON'T YOU ALL STOP HIM?
WHAT'S WITH HER?
SHE'S NOT USED TO EMPATH, THAT'S ALL!
YOU ARE A CREEP, AREN'T YOU, EMPATH?
MISS FROST!
AMARA, STOP!
MANUEL, I WARNED YOU ABOUT THOSE KINDS OF GAMES! RELEASE TAROT... AT ONCE!
HERE, AMARA DEAR, I BROUGHT YOU A LETTER FROM YOUR FATHER. THAT SHOULD CHEER YOU UP.
WHAT'S WITH YOU, EMPATH? GOT A CRUSH ON A NEW MUTIE?
WHAT'S WITH ALL OF YOU?

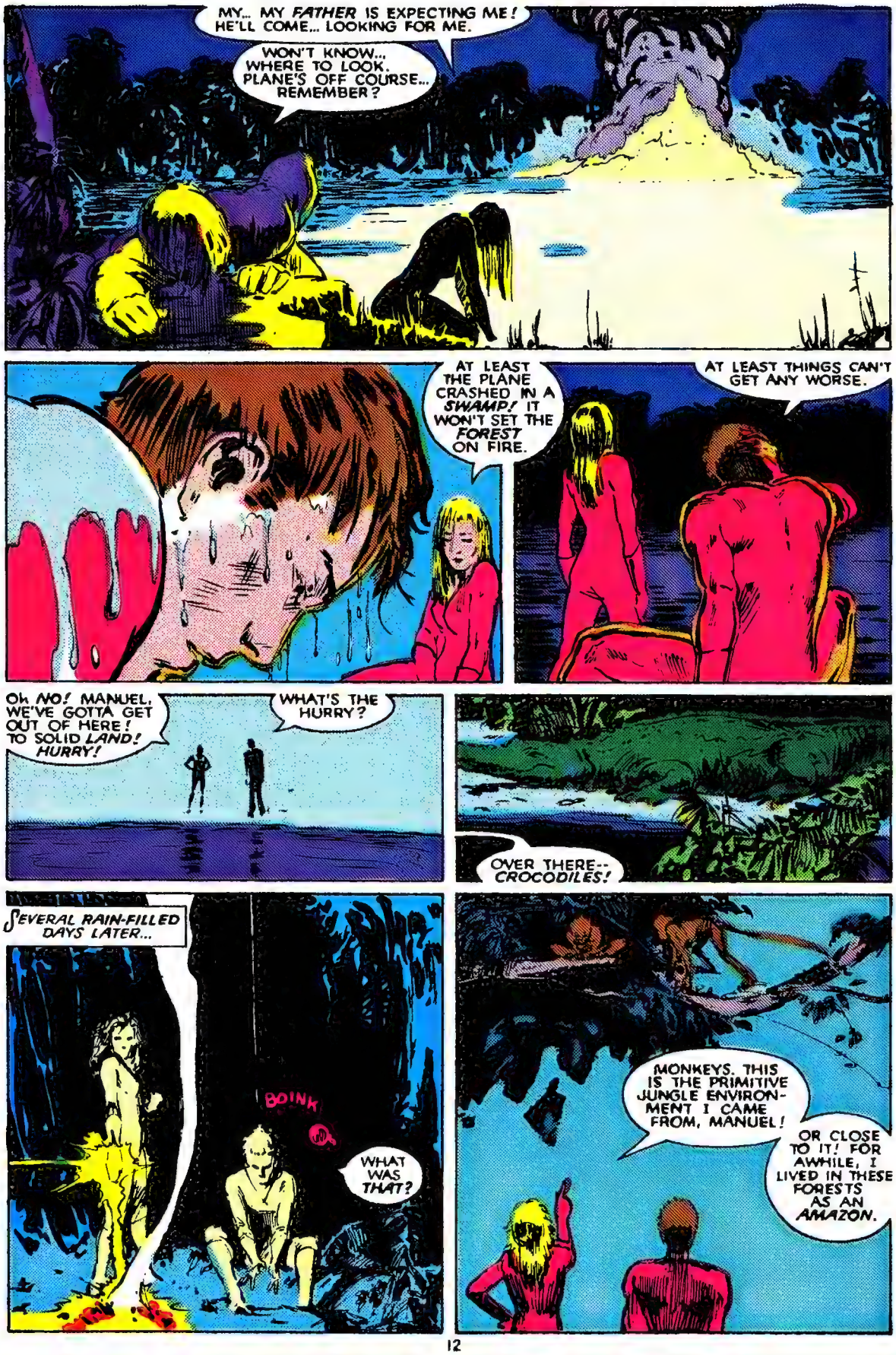

UNLIKE TAROT, AMARA IS STRONG-WILLED AND WELL-TRAINED IN RESISTING MIND CONTROL!
AMARA, DEAR, YOU LOOK UPSET!
MY FATHER WANTS ME TO COME HOME.
OH, WHAT A SHAME! BUT... WE MUST SEND YOU HOME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!
THE PRACTICE SESSION IS OVER, STUDENTS. AMARA, YOU'LL WANT TO PACK, DEAR.
MANUEL, REMAIN HERE! THERE'S SOMETHING I WISH TO DISCUSS WITH YOU!
YOU WEREN'T REALLY TRYING TO INFLUENCE HER!
SHE'S A TEAMMATE. SHE HATES BEING CONTROLLED. I CAN FEEL IT! NOT LIKE TAROT!
I WOULDN'T HUMILIATE HER IN THAT FASHION.
VERY NOBLE, EMPATH. NOT LIKE YOU AT ALL...
...ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING THE SUBTLE INFLUENCE YOU'VE EXERTED ON HER RECENTLY.
INFLUENCE...?
OH, COME NOW, MANUEL. I AM A TELEPATH. BUT I'M NOT ANGRY.
INDEED, HAD YOU NOT HELD BACK, I WOULD HAVE STOPPED THE PRACTICE SESSION BEFORE YOU OVERCAME HER.
NOT THAT, ON A DIRECT ASSAULT, YOU NECESSARILY COULD HAVE WON. HER TRAINING, SO FAR, HAS BEEN SUPERB.
BUT MY INTERVENTION WASN'T NECESSARY. YOU'RE LEARNING SUBTLETY.
AND BECAUSE YOU ARE, I WANT YOU TO GO WITH AMARA TO VISIT HER FATHER.
ME...? WHY?
OUR SPONSOR ORGANIZATION, THE HELLFIRE CLUB, WANTS AMARA TO REMAIN HERE...
...AND HER FATHER, WHO CONTROLS AN AREA OF GREAT MINERALOGICAL WEALTH, TO BE WELL DISPOSED TO US!
YOU ARE TO SEE THAT HE IS... SUBTLY!

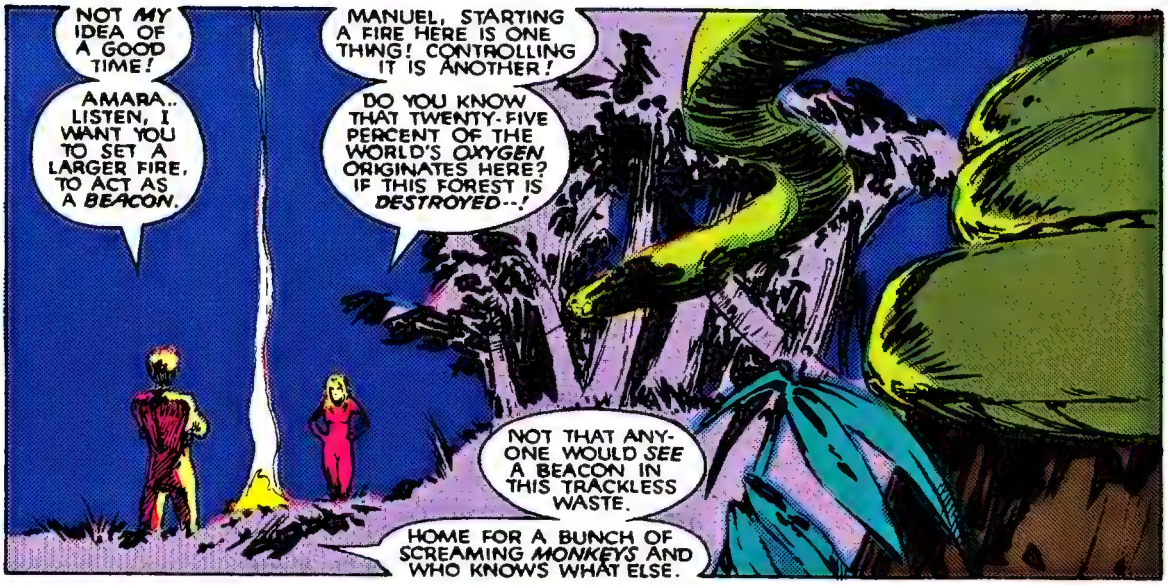

LATER...
YOU'RE PACKED, AMARA. READY TO LEAVE SO SOON?
CAN'T WAIT FOR ME TO BE GONE, CAN YOU, MANUEL? I HEARD WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT YOUR RESPECT FOR... ALL OF US.
ONLY I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE. THERE'S SO MUCH IN THIS COUNTRY I WANT TO EXPERIENCE!
THEN DON'T GO!
MY FATHER COMMANDED ME AND--
LOOK, YOU COULDN'T POSSIBLY UNDERSTAND. OUR CULTURE'S SO DIFFERENT FROM YOURS AND--
JUST LEAVE ME ALONE, MANUEL, OR HAVE YOU COME TO TORMENT ME LIKE YOU TORMENTED POOR TAROT!
SHE LIKES YOU... A LOT... AND SHE'S HURT... AND JEALOUS BECAUSE I'M HERE! AND YOU TORMENT HER!
IT'S SO EASY FOR YOU TO MAKE PEOPLE LOVE YOU, ISN'T IT?
NOT SO EASY AS MAKING THEM HATE ME...
...OR HAVEN'T YOU NOTICED.
LISTEN, 'MARA, I HAVE A SURPRISE FOR YOU! MISS FROST SAYS I'M TO COME WITH YOU!
BUT... WHY?
MAYBE... SO I CAN CONVINCE YOUR FATHER TO LET YOU STAY.


SEVERAL DAYS LATER...
THE JET WE TOOK TO BUENOS AIRES WAS FUN, MANUEL, LIKE RIDING ON A CHARIOT OF THE GODS.
BUT THIS LITTLE BOUNCING CRAFT IS SCARY.
IT ALMOST MAKES ME BELIEVE, AS MANY OF MY PEOPLE DO, THAT MAN WAS NOT MEANT TO FLY.
BUT YOURS IS A PRIMITIVE JUNGLE CULTURE. IRON AGE, RIGHT? ANCIENT ROMAN/INCA MIX?
JUST BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE FLIGHT DOESN'T MAKE US--
EEEK!
KRAKK
I'VE FLOWN THROUGH STORMS IN MY FAMILY'S PLANE MANY TIMES OVER THE MOUNTAINS OF MY NATIVE SPAIN...
...BUT IF YOU'RE NERVOUS, I'LL TALK TO THE PILOT.
LISTEN, AMARA, THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT. WE'RE ON THE LAST LEG OF OUR JOURNEY.
PILOT, WHY MUST YOU RISK THE DAUGHTER OF SENATOR AQUILA LIKE THIS? WHY CAN'T WE SIMPLY FLY AROUND THE STORM?
SHUT UP, KID, AN' SIT DOWN! WE'VE ALREADY GONE OFF COURSE, HOPING TO AVOID THE STORM.
WE'VE STRETCHED IT ABOUT AS FAR AS THE FUEL WILL--
KRAKA
KA
BOOM

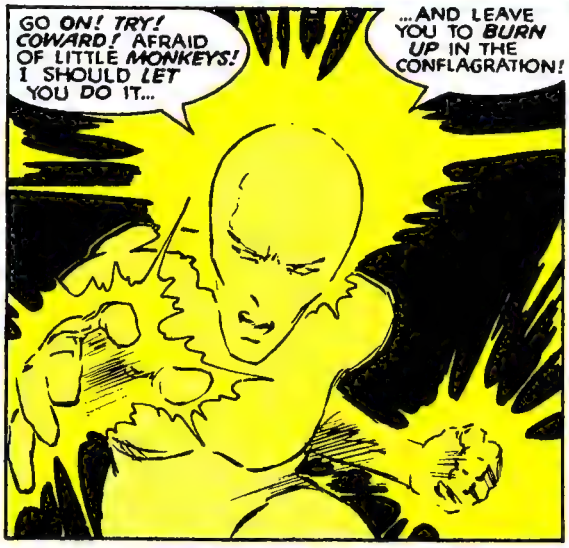

AMARA! WE'VE BEEN HIT! WE'RE GOING DOWN!
WE'RE DEAD!
NOT NECESSARILY! I'VE FLOWN ALL MY LIFE. A LITTLE PLANE LIKE THIS WILL GLIDE.
THERE'S AN EMPTY STRETCH AHEAD. THE PILOT WILL MAKE FOR THAT!
WE MUST GET OUT! AWAY FROM HERE!
..OH!
BANG
AMARA, NO! STAY BUCKLED UP. BRACE YOURSELF... I'LL SHOW YOU HOW!
YOU'RE NOT AFRAID, AMARA! YOU'RE CALM... WILL I HAVE TO TAKE YOU OVER TO MAKE YOU CALM?
NO--!
NO!
CRUNCH

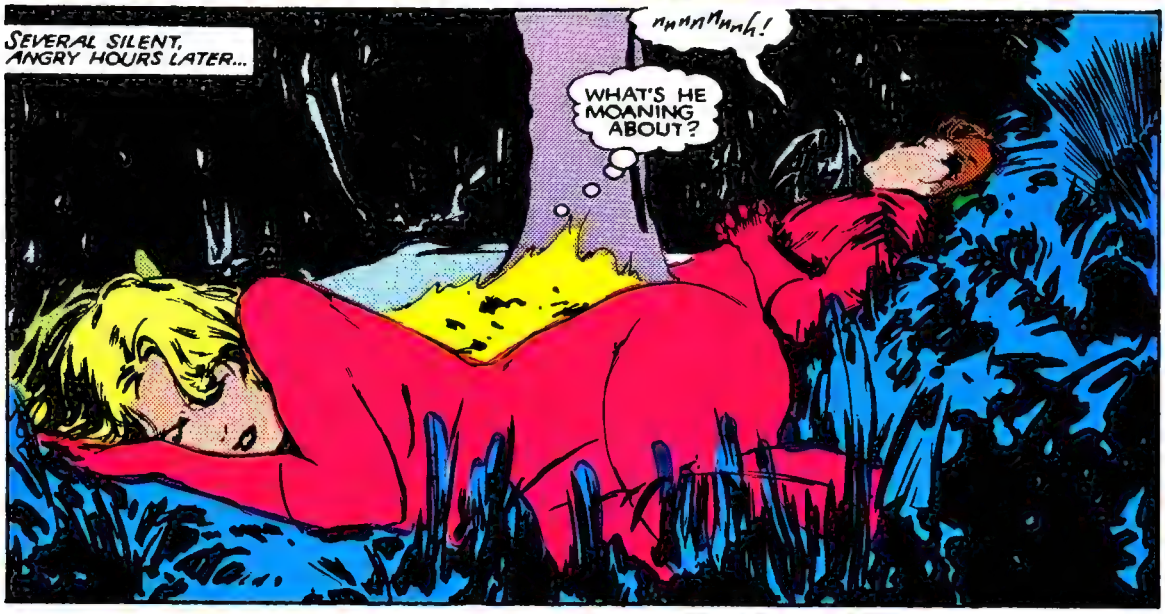
SOON...
AMARA... AMARA, WAKE UP, WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!-!
THE PILOT--!
I FELT HIS TERROR... FELT HIM DIE...
...DEAD, AMARA. HE'S DEAD...!
PLOOSH!
WHOOM!

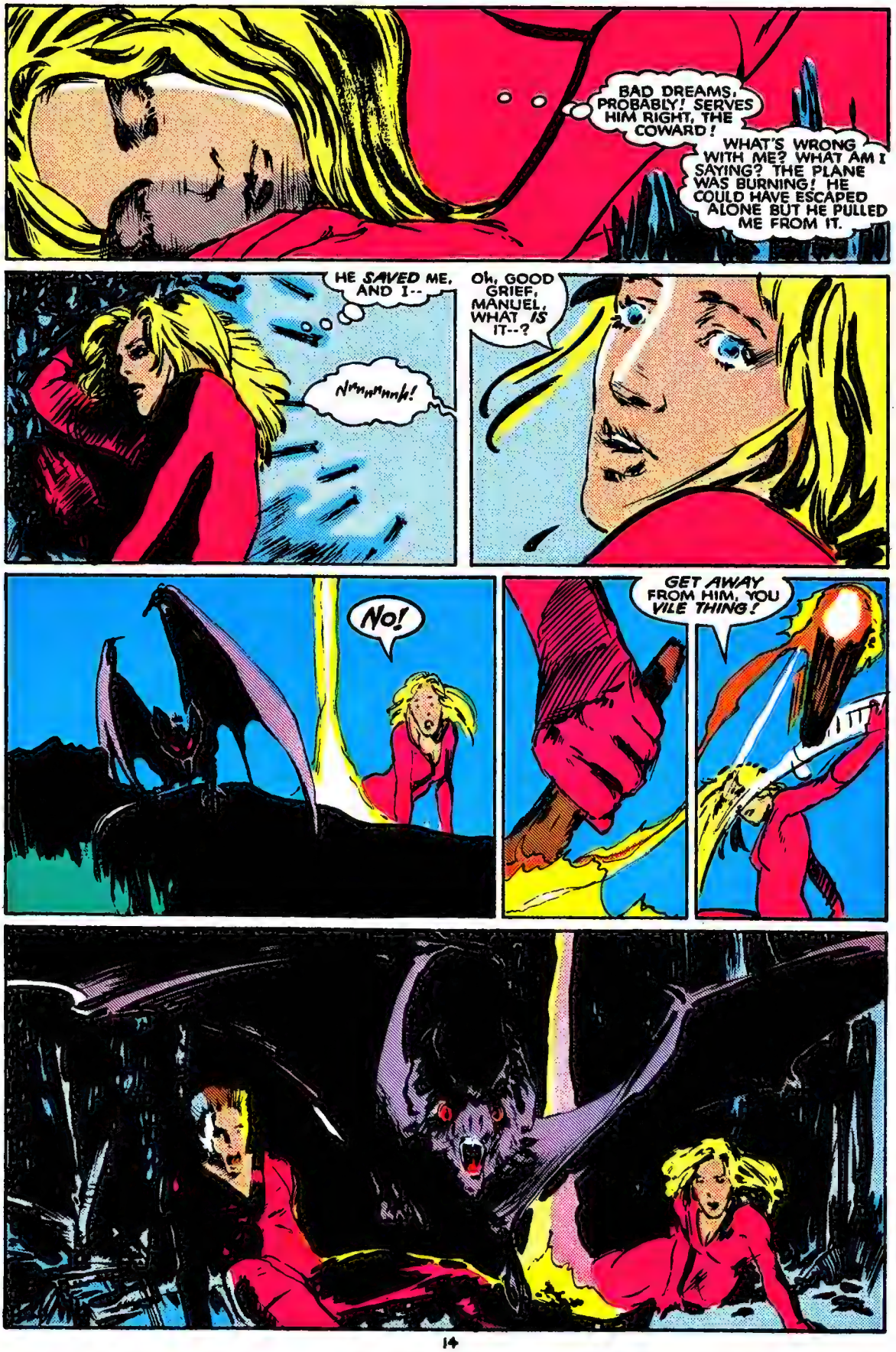

MY... MY FATHER IS EXPECTING ME! HE'LL COME... LOOKING FOR ME.
WON'T KNOW... WHERE TO LOOK. PLANE'S OFF COURSE... REMEMBER?
AT LEAST THE PLANE CRASHED IN A SWAMP! IT WON'T SET THE FOREST ON FIRE.
AT LEAST THINGS CAN'T GET ANY WORSE.
Oh NO! MANUEL, WE'VE GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE! TO SOLID LAND! HURRY!
WHAT'S THE HURRY?
OVER THERE-- CROCODILES!
SEVERAL RAIN-FILLED DAYS LATER...
BOINK
WHAT WAS THAT?
MONKEYS. THIS IS THE PRIMITIVE JUNGLE ENVIRONMENT I CAME FROM, MANUEL!
OR CLOSE TO IT! FOR AWHILE, I LIVED IN THESE FORESTS AS AN AMAZON.

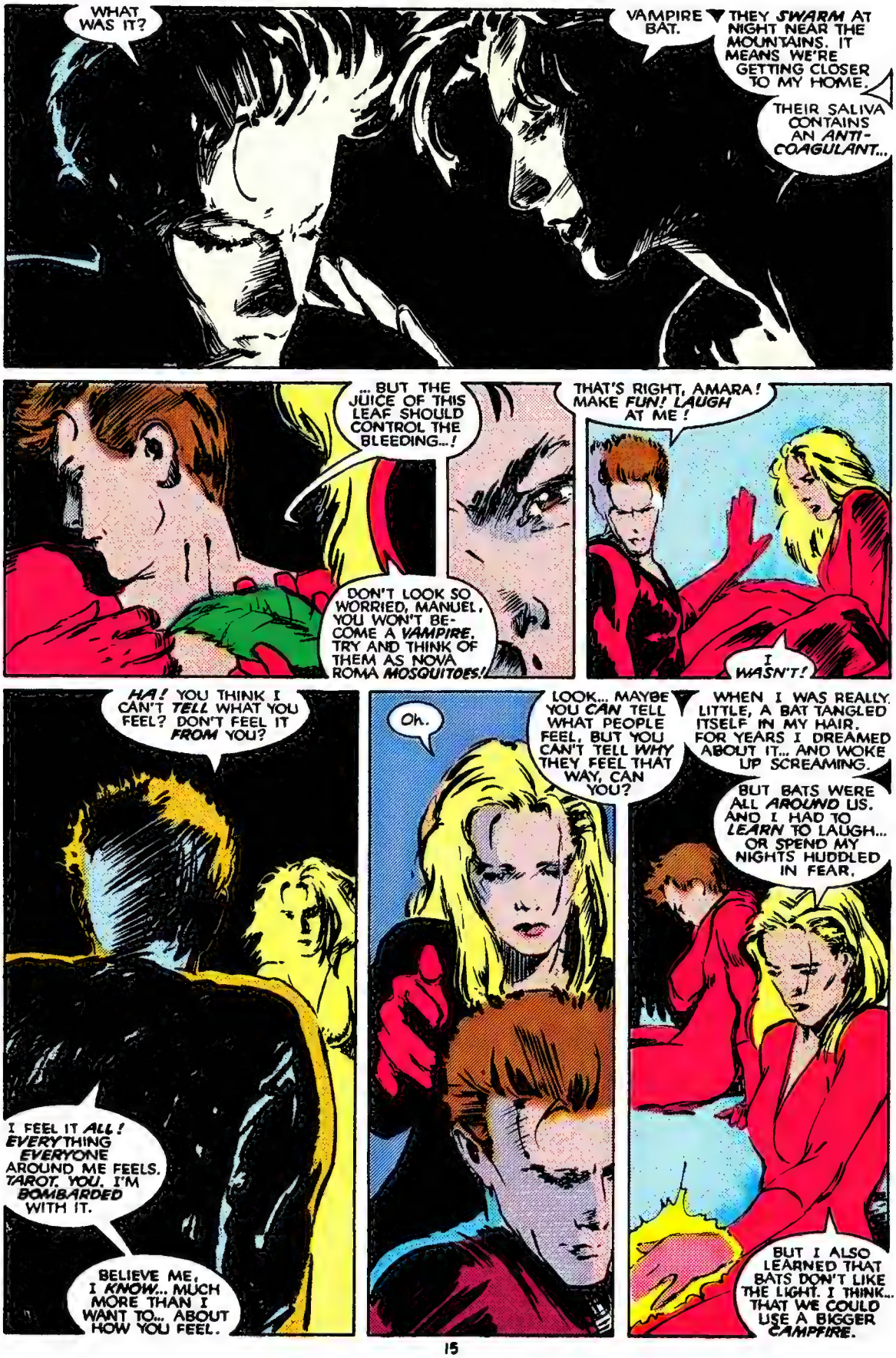

NOT MY IDEA OF A GOOD TIME!
AMARA.. LISTEN, I WANT YOU TO SET A LARGER FIRE, TO ACT AS A BEACON.
MANUEL, STARTING A FIRE HERE IS ONE THING! CONTROLLING IT IS ANOTHER!
DO YOU KNOW THAT TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE WORLD'S OXYGEN ORIGINATES HERE? IF THIS FOREST IS DESTROYED--!
NOT THAT ANY-ONE WOULD SEE A BEACON IN THIS TRACKLESS WASTE.
HOME FOR A BUNCH OF SCREAMING MONKEYS AND WHO KNOWS WHAT ELSE.

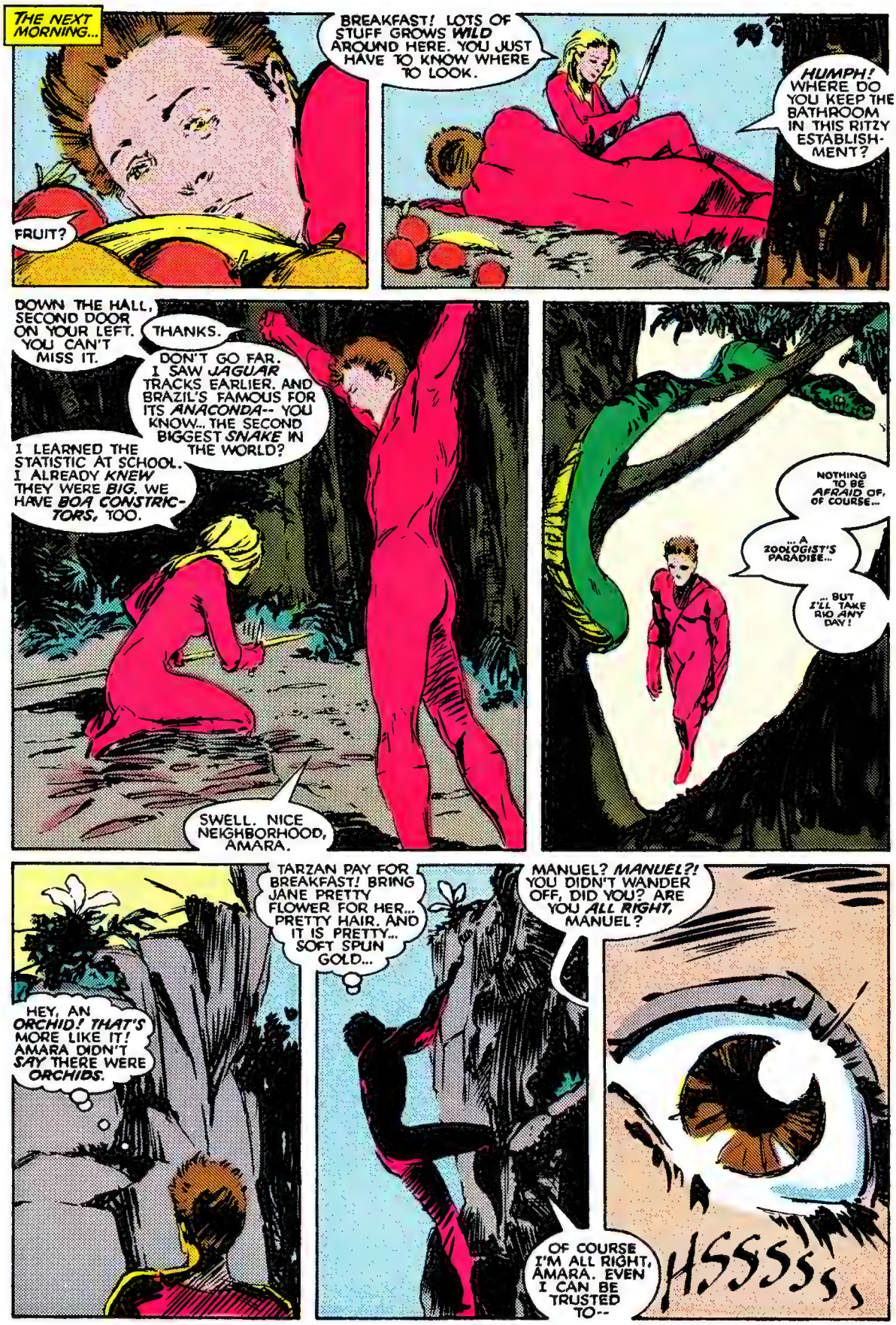
IT'S MY HOME!
WE NEED TO BE RESCUED. I COULD MAKE YOU!

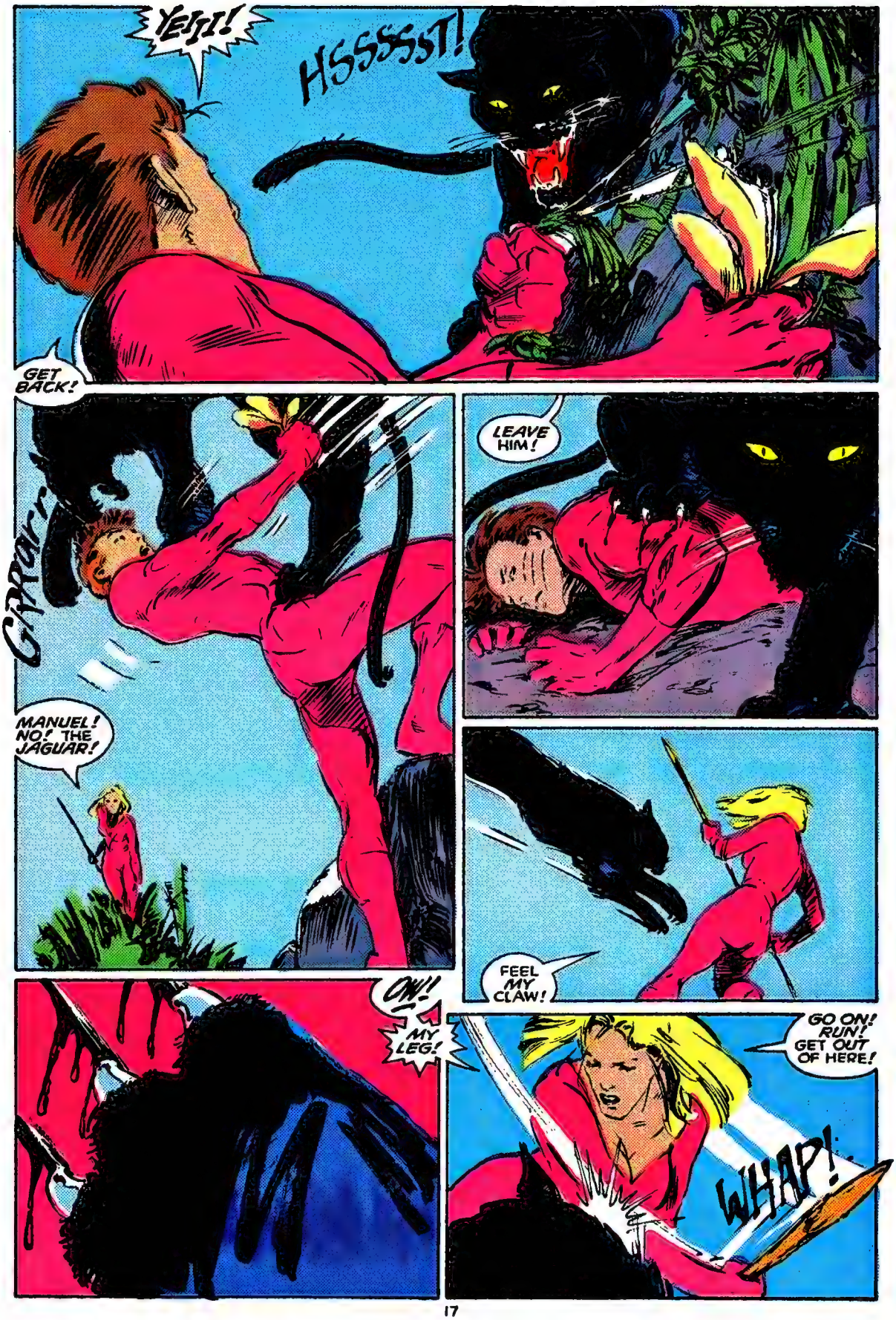

GO ON! TRY! COWARD! AFRAID OF LITTLE MONKEYS! I SHOULD LET YOU DO IT...
...AND LEAVE YOU TO BURN UP IN THE CONFLAGRATION!

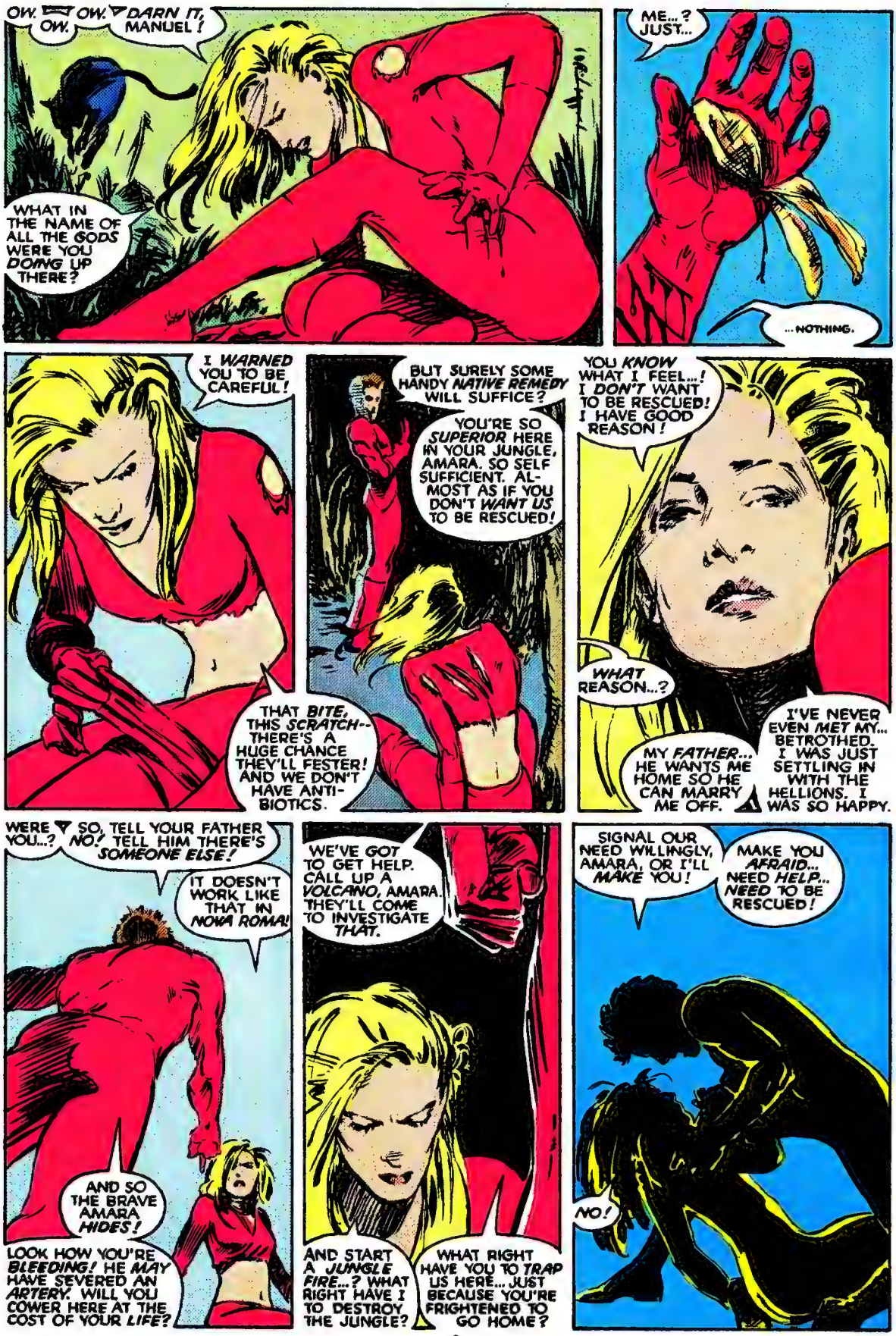

SEVERAL SILENT, ANGRY HOURS LATER...
mmmMmmh!
WHAT'S HE MOANING ABOUT?

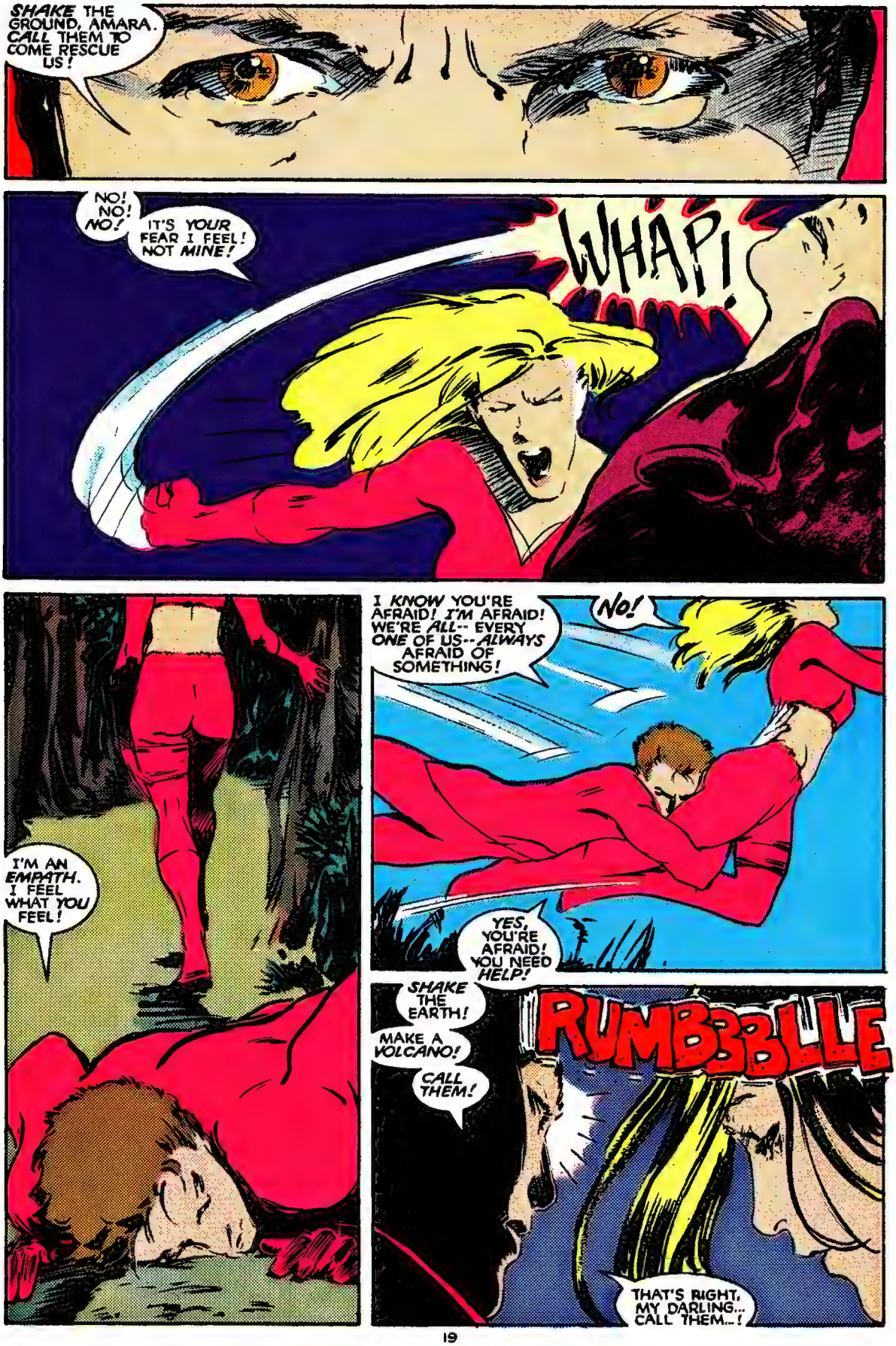

BAD DREAMS, PROBABLY! SERVES HIM RIGHT, THE COWARD!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME? WHAT AM I SAYING? THE PLANE WAS BURNING! HE COULD HAVE ESCAPED ALONE BUT HE PULLED ME FROM IT.
HE SAVED ME, AND I--
Nnnnnnnh!
Oh, GOOD GRIEF, MANUEL, WHAT IS IT--?
No!
GET AWAY FROM HIM, YOU VILE THING!

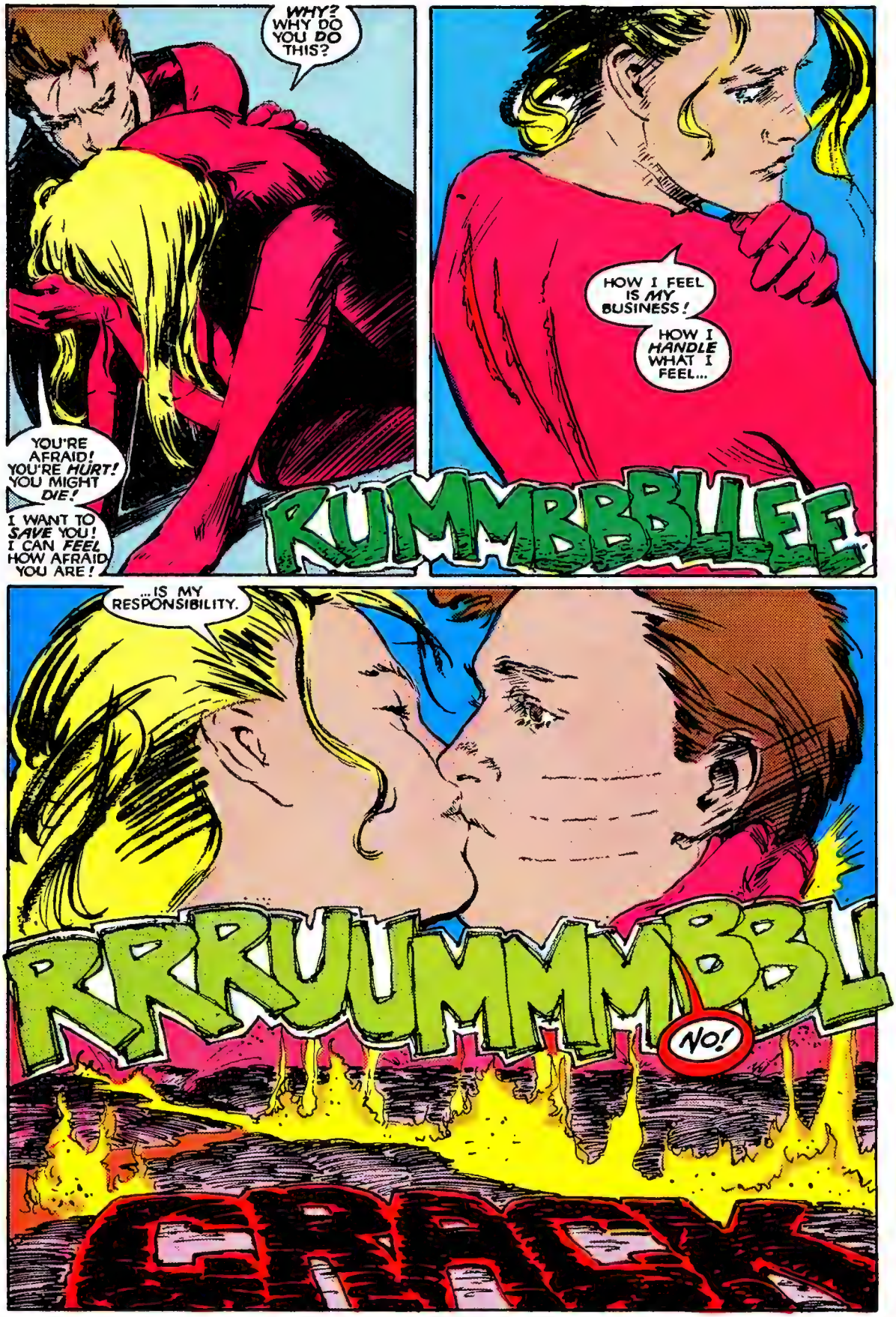

WHAT WAS IT?
VAMPIRE BAT.
THEY SWARM AT NIGHT NEAR THE MOUNTAINS. IT MEANS WE'RE GETTING CLOSER TO MY HOME.
THEIR SALIVA CONTAINS AN ANTI-COAGULANT...
... BUT THE JUICE OF THIS LEAF SHOULD CONTROL THE BLEEDING...!
DON'T LOOK SO WORRIED, MANUEL. YOU WON'T BECOME A VAMPIRE. TRY AND THINK OF THEM AS NOVA ROMA MOSQUITOES!
THAT'S RIGHT, AMARA! MAKE FUN! LAUGH AT ME!
I WASN'T!
HA! YOU THINK I CAN'T TELL WHAT YOU FEEL? DON'T FEEL IT FROM YOU?
I FEEL IT ALL! EVERYTHING EVERYONE AROUND ME FEELS. TAROT. YOU. I'M BOMBARDED WITH IT.
BELIEVE ME, I KNOW... MUCH MORE THAN I WANT TO... ABOUT HOW YOU FEEL.
Oh.
LOOK... MAYBE YOU CAN TELL WHAT PEOPLE FEEL, BUT YOU CAN'T TELL WHY THEY FEEL THAT WAY, CAN YOU?
WHEN I WAS REALLY LITTLE, A BAT TANGLED ITSELF IN MY HAIR. FOR YEARS I DREAMED ABOUT IT... AND WOKE UP SCREAMING.
BUT BATS WERE ALL AROUND US. AND I HAD TO LEARN TO LAUGH... OR SPEND MY NIGHTS HUDDLED IN FEAR.
BUT I ALSO LEARNED THAT BATS DON'T LIKE THE LIGHT. I THINK... THAT WE COULD USE A BIGGER CAMPFIRE.

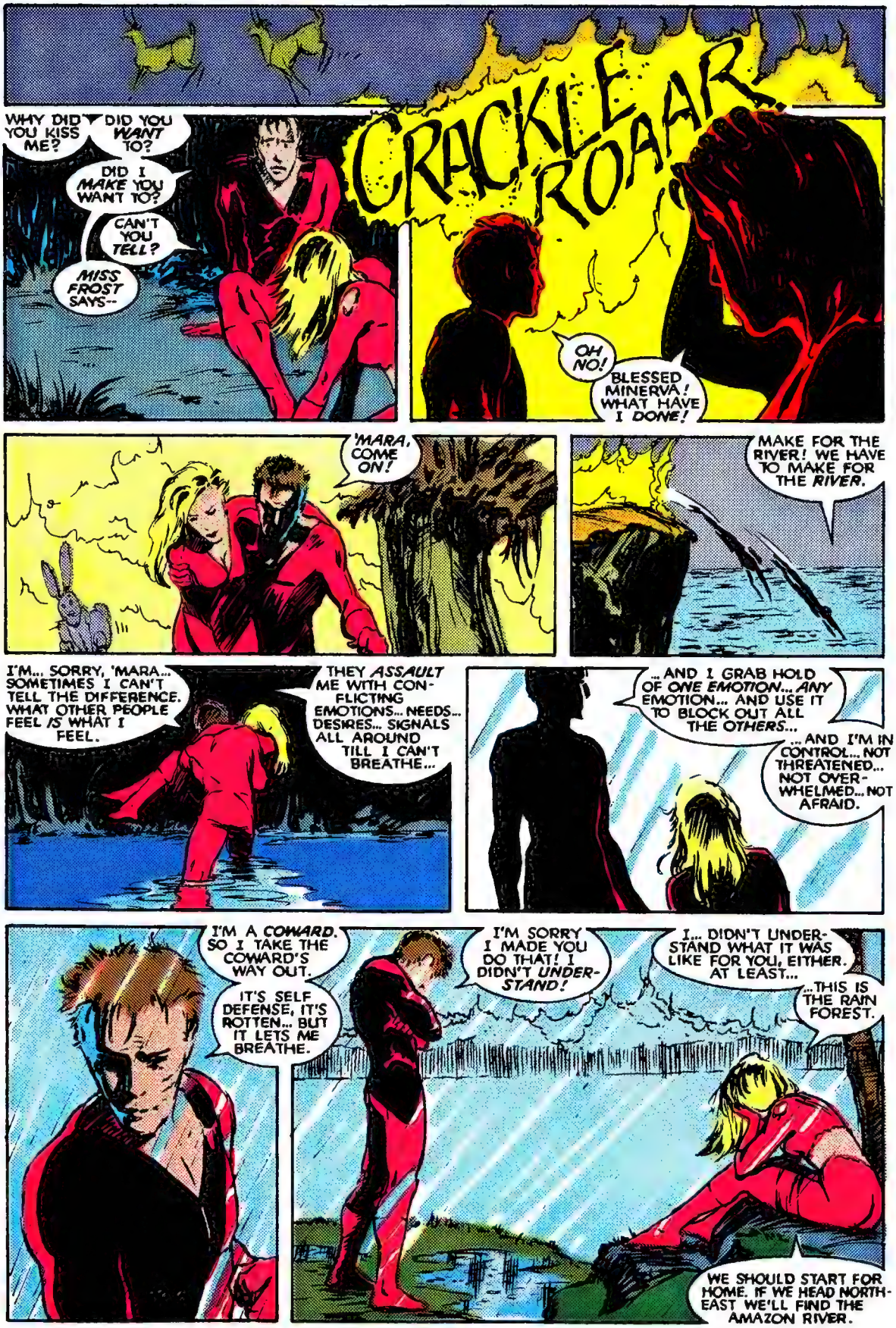

THE NEXT MORNING...
FRUIT?
BREAKFAST! LOTS OF STUFF GROWS WILD AROUND HERE. YOU JUST HAVE TO KNOW WHERE TO LOOK.
HUMPH! WHERE DO YOU KEEP THE BATHROOM IN THIS RITZY ESTABLISH-MENT?
DOWN THE HALL, SECOND DOOR ON YOUR LEFT. YOU CAN'T MISS IT.
THANKS.
DON'T GO FAR. I SAW JAGUAR TRACKS EARLIER. AND BRAZIL'S FAMOUS FOR ITS ANACONDA-- YOU KNOW... THE SECOND BIGGEST SNAKE IN THE WORLD?
I LEARNED THE STATISTIC AT SCHOOL. I ALREADY KNEW THEY WERE BIG. WE HAVE BOA CONSTRIC-TORS, TOO.
SWELL. NICE NEIGHBORHOOD, AMARA.
NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF, OF COURSE...
...A ZOOLOGIST'S PARADISE...
...BUT I'LL TAKE RIO ANY DAY!
HEY, AN ORCHID! THAT'S MORE LIKE IT! AMARA DIDN'T SAY THERE WERE ORCHIDS.
TARZAN PAY FOR BREAKFAST! BRING JANE PRETTY FLOWER FOR HER... PRETTY HAIR. AND IT IS PRETTY... SOFT SPUN GOLD...
MANUEL? MANUEL?! YOU DIDN'T WANDER OFF, DID YOU? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MANUEL?
OF COURSE I'M ALL RIGHT, AMARA. EVEN I CAN BE TRUSTED TO--
HSSSSS

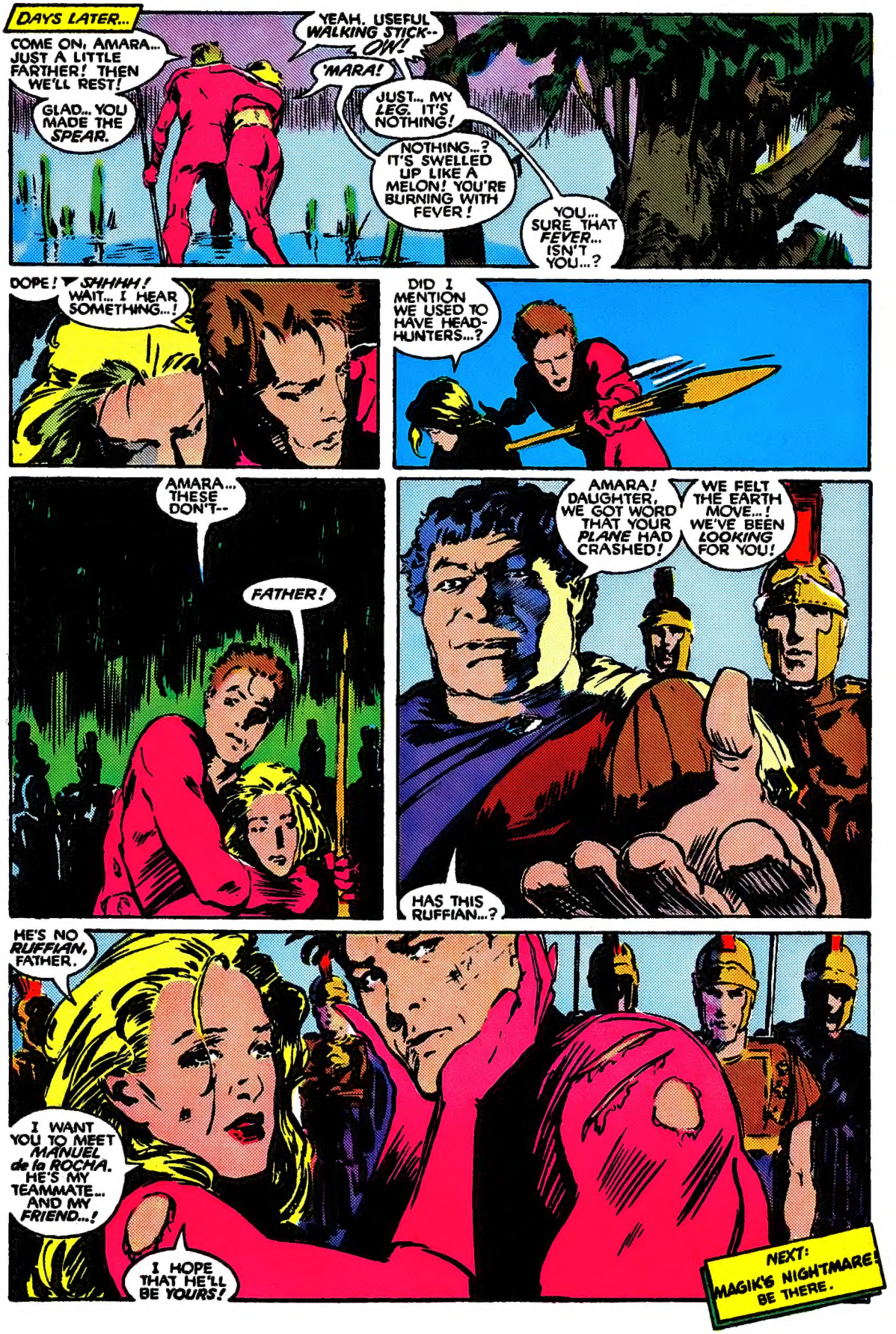

YEIII!
HSSSSST!
GET BACK!
GRRAR!
MANUEL! NO! THE JAGUAR!
LEAVE HIM!
FEEL MY CLAW!
OW! MY LEG!
GO ON! RUN! GET OUT OF HERE!
WHAP!


OW. OW. OW. DARN IT, MANUEL!
WHAT IN THE NAME OF ALL THE GODS WERE YOU DOING UP THERE?
ME...? JUST...
...NOTHING.
I WARNED YOU TO BE CAREFUL!
THAT BITE, THIS SCRATCH-- THERE'S A HUGE CHANCE THEY'LL FESTER! AND WE DON'T HAVE ANTI-BIOTICS.
BUT SURELY SOME HANDY NATIVE REMEDY WILL SUFFICE?
YOU'RE SO SUPERIOR HERE IN YOUR JUNGLE, AMARA. SO SELF SUFFICIENT. ALMOST AS IF YOU DON'T WANT US TO BE RESCUED!
YOU KNOW WHAT I FEEL...! I DON'T WANT TO BE RESCUED! I HAVE GOOD REASON!
WHAT REASON...?
MY FATHER... HE WANTS ME HOME SO HE CAN MARRY ME OFF.
I'VE NEVER EVEN MET MY... BETROTHED. I WAS JUST SETTLING IN WITH THE HELLIONS. I WAS SO HAPPY.
WERE YOU...? SO, TELL YOUR FATHER NO! TELL HIM THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE!
IT DOESN'T WORK LIKE THAT IN NOVA ROMA!
AND SO THE BRAVE AMARA HIDES!
LOOK HOW YOU'RE BLEEDING! HE MAY HAVE SEVERED AN ARTERY. WILL YOU COWER HERE AT THE COST OF YOUR LIFE?
WE'VE GOT TO GET HELP. CALL UP A VOLCANO, AMARA. THEY'LL COME TO INVESTIGATE THAT.
AND START A JUNGLE FIRE...? WHAT RIGHT HAVE I TO DESTROY THE JUNGLE?
WHAT RIGHT HAVE YOU TO TRAP US HERE... JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE FRIGHTENED TO GO HOME?
SIGNAL OUR NEED WILLINGLY, AMARA, OR I'LL MAKE YOU!
MAKE YOU AFRAID... NEED HELP... NEED TO BE RESCUED!
NO!


SHAKE THE GROUND, AMARA. CALL THEM TO COME RESCUE US!
NO! NO! NO!
IT'S YOUR FEAR I FEEL! NOT MINE!
WHAP!
I'M AN EMPATH. I FEEL WHAT YOU FEEL!
I KNOW YOU'RE AFRAID! I'M AFRAID! WE'RE ALL-- EVERY ONE OF US-- ALWAYS AFRAID OF SOMETHING!
NO!
YES, YOU'RE AFRAID! YOU NEED HELP!
SHAKE THE EARTH!
MAKE A VOLCANO!
CALL THEM!
RUMBBBLLLE
THAT'S RIGHT, MY DARLING... CALL THEM...!


WHY? WHY DO YOU DO THIS?
YOU'RE AFRAID! YOU'RE HURT! YOU MIGHT DIE!
I WANT TO SAVE YOU! I CAN FEEL HOW AFRAID YOU ARE!
HOW I FEEL IS MY BUSINESS!
HOW I HANDLE WHAT I FEEL...
RUMMBBLEE
...IS MY RESPONSIBILITY.
RRRYUMMBBL
NO!
CRACK


CRACKLE ROAAR
WHY DID YOU KISS ME?
DID YOU WANT TO?
DID I MAKE YOU WANT TO?
CAN'T YOU TELL?
MISS FROST SAYS--
OH NO!
BLESSED MINERVA! WHAT HAVE I DONE!
'MARA, COME ON!
MAKE FOR THE RIVER! WE HAVE TO MAKE FOR THE RIVER.
I'M... SORRY, 'MARA... SOMETIMES I CAN'T TELL THE DIFFERENCE. WHAT OTHER PEOPLE FEEL IS WHAT I FEEL.
THEY ASSAULT ME WITH CONFLICTING EMOTIONS... NEEDS... DESIRES... SIGNALS ALL AROUND TILL I CAN'T BREATHE...
... AND I GRAB HOLD OF ONE EMOTION... ANY EMOTION... AND USE IT TO BLOCK OUT ALL THE OTHERS...
... AND I'M IN CONTROL... NOT THREATENED... NOT OVERWHELMED... NOT AFRAID.
I'M A COWARD. SO I TAKE THE COWARD'S WAY OUT.
IT'S SELF DEFENSE, IT'S ROTTEN... BUT IT LETS ME BREATHE.
I'M SORRY I MADE YOU DO THAT! I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND!
I... DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT IT WAS LIKE FOR YOU, EITHER. AT LEAST...
...THIS IS THE RAIN FOREST.
WE SHOULD START FOR HOME. IF WE HEAD NORTHEAST WE'LL FIND THE AMAZON RIVER.


DAYS LATER...
COME ON, AMARA... JUST A LITTLE FARTHER! THEN WE'LL REST!
GLAD... YOU MADE THE SPEAR.
YEAH. USEFUL WALKING STICK-- OW!
'MARA!
JUST... MY LEG. IT'S NOTHING!
NOTHING...? IT'S SWELLED UP LIKE A MELON! YOU'RE BURNING WITH FEVER!
YOU... SURE THAT FEVER... ISN'T YOU...?
DOPE! SHHHH! WAIT... I HEAR SOMETHING...!
DID I MENTION WE USED TO HAVE HEAD-HUNTERS...?
AMARA... THESE DON'T--
FATHER!
AMARA! DAUGHTER, WE GOT WORD THAT YOUR PLANE HAD CRASHED!
WE FELT THE EARTH MOVE...! WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU!
HAS THIS RUFFIAN...?
HE'S NO RUFFIAN, FATHER.
I WANT YOU TO MEET MANUEL de la ROCHA. HE'S MY TEAMMATE... AND MY FRIEND...!
I HOPE THAT HE'LL BE YOURS!
NEXT: MAGIK'S NIGHTMARE! BE THERE.

REPORT CARD

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

ANN NOCENTI
EDITOR
TERRY KAVANAGH
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear People,

I just finished reading NEW MUTANTS #46 and I have to say it is the best NEW MUTANTS issue I have ever read! It had a marvelous plot! I thought it was kind of funny the way Bobby thought the demons were going to hurt Magik.

I also liked the art—the facial features looked so real and lifelike. I love the strange clothing that Magik wears!

But the real reason I like THE NEW MUTANTS is that it deals with teenage problems while giving you great comic book stories at the same time. I intend to keep reading NEW MUTANTS for a long time! (I think Magik should be leader of the New Mutants.)

Jason Walker
1615 S. St. Charles
Houma, LA 70360

Dear Mutant Scribes,

I've had it up to here with the way the New Mutants treat Illyana. In your reply to Stephanie Anderson in #47 you speak of treating Rahne with understanding and compassion. How about showing some towards Illyana for a change?

Everyone's always moaning about how totally evil and demonic she is but I've yet to see any real proof of it. Could someone so totally evil feel such joy when Professor Xavier took his first steps, or such love as she does for her brother and best friend? Would a demon forgive Sam so quickly and completely after he tried to kill her in "Badlands"? It's true that her spirit is tainted by Belasco's evil but she fights that evil every day in the most heroic manner. Dr. Strange himself said that her best hope was the encouragement and support of her friends. How can she win her battle if her teammates are forever condemning her? Don't expect me to feel any compassion for Rahne. I reserve it for those like Illyana who truly deserve it!

Please drop this nonsense between Doug and Betsy, and get him back together with Kitty. They're the "team supreme," remember?

Kim Cooper
1012 Bryan
Amarillo, TX 79102

Well, Kim, the budding relationship between Cypher and Psylocke was interrupted by Wolfsbane. Not that it really matters anymore anyhow — what with Doug being dead and all.

Illyana certainly seems to be getting a good deal of moral support these days from her fans—if not her teammates!

Dear People,

I've just finished reading NEW MUTANTS #47 and I have to say it's spectacular! I've been somewhat worried about Roberto, since the things he went through emotionally with the Beyonder and also with the way he feels about Illyana. He seems to be getting better. Good. Very good!

Speaking of Illyana, I like her costume in Limbo. You know, we haven't seen Belasco for a while, ever since S'ym came to get her in issue #14. (And even then we didn't see him) You'd think that Magik would be important enough for him to come and get or something. (Hint, hint.)

I love the dialogue (as usual), and I love the artwork—My greatest compliments to Jackson Guice! I don't know much about the technicalities of making a comic book so I was wondering—what's the difference between a penciler, inker, and a colorist, and why can't just one person do it?

Well guys, even though Magneto is doing a pretty good job of running things, when is Professor Xavier coming back? And what's going on with Madelyne Pryor-Summers? The last we saw she was dying—when do we get to find out about that, huh? That's about all I wanted to say except to keep up the terrific job you're doing. I know this book will keep getting better and better!

Laura Dykstra
(No Address Given)

The New Mutants ran into Professor X just last year in outer space, Laura — if you caught NEW MUTANTS #49–51, you know what we're talking about and how it all turned out. As for Madelyne Pryor, you'll have to see current issues of X-FACTOR and X-MEN for her fate!

Dear Chris,

In NEW MUTANTS #46 and #47, a new and promising storyline began. This fleeing and, of course, unavoidable confrontation with Magus will be a logical progression from the prior short, one character stories.

I thought the "End is Coming" poster by Shan's apartment in #46 was a nice touch. It sent chills up my spine and a kaleidoscope of images whirling through my head.

And as for Roberto, his arrogance has to be dealt with—maybe a chance meeting with Wolverine or Thomas Magnum would smarten him up.

Magik's red and white costume in #47 is pretty appealing—how about keeping it? Please don't let Magus destroy Magik's demon world. Illyana's limbo has so much character and potential, destroying it would be a mistake.

And as for the time travel, you are really taking a chance, the frenzy for continuity is reaching a peak. Remember, Chris, you are dealing with history here.

Two of my favorite characters, Sunder and S'ym seem to be in jeopardy. I beg of you, don't kill them! Give 'em Limited Series! Instead, okay?

P.K. Beaver
Box 3184
Smithers, B.C. CANADA V0J-2N0

This has got to be a record—not a single complaint about at least one part of an issue. Illyana's new Limbo costume will have to make a reappearance!

Dear Chris,

"Ashes of the Heart," NEW MUTANTS #48, was great! Especially the artwork by Jackson Guice and P. Craig Russell. The cover was a real eye-opener.

It's wild to watch the New Mutants try and handle the knowledge that their futures won't be rosy. I was surprised that the Sentinels hadn't checked their original home bases—although I guess it makes sense. The Marvel Comics sign on page 14 was a cute touch. I liked seeing Wolfsbane discover where the real Lila was hidden.

It will be interesting to see how both the X-Men and the New Mutants will try to change their futures in the present. How about a team-up between the New Mutants and Power Pack real soon? Good luck!

C.D.H.
15 W. 139th St. #4R
New York, NY 10037

That's a team-up that's more likely than you might have realized, "C.", now that Louise Simonson is the writer of both blockbusting titles! Add to that Bret Blevins as penciler (famed for his work on CLOAK AND DAGGER), and TERRY AUSTIN as inker (destined to become famed for his writing on CLOAK AND DAGGER), and we've got a dynamite team! And whatever the future of the Mutants, it's in their hands now, and all we can say is that it's definitely gonna be a lively one for the New and "Newer" Mutants! (Yes, that is a hint!)

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE
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11. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.
(signed) Thomas Costello — Business Manager

BULLPEN BULLETINS

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

"Happy Holidays, you guys!"

—THE MARVEL BULLPEN

ITEM: After a half year in the nine-to-five grind as head of our peerless Production Department, Jumbo *Jim Novak* (once our most popular letterer) has heard the scritching of penpoints and the bubbling of inkpots and has decided to pack up his desk and hit the freelance lettering road again. So good luck, Jim — this loss is Marvel's calligraphic gain!

ITEM: Stepping into the breach Jim left will be none other than Virtuous *Virginia Romita*, who is currently the Traffic Manager for the entire Marvel line. She's the one who keeps track of schedules and lets editors know when the Dreaded Deadline Doom is looming. Vee-Ay has decided not to give up her Trafficking job either — she intends to manage both Traffic *and* Production! (Whew! It's a big job, but she is a tough lady!)

ITEM: Wait — there's still more people exchanging hats! Erudite *Adam Blaustein*, assistant editor in the Special Projects department, has accepted a promotion out of the Editorial rank and file. Adam's now going to be a production man — specifically, our liaison with Chemical Color, the fine people who do the color separations for our comic books. Good luck to you in your new position, Adam!

ITEM: And, finally, taking Adam's place in our star-studded editorial line-up is Diligent *David Wohl*. David's been an editorial assistant on the OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE for most of its run and also did a summer stint as Star Editor *Don Daley's* assistant. Dave and his comrade-in-arms, *Marc Siry* (who is now assisting Reliable *Ralph Macchio*), are proud graduates of Marvel's high school editorial intern program, and both are currently attending college after work. (Satisfied, Marc? We finally found a way to mention you on this page!)

ITEM: If we seem a bit more harried this time than usual, here's why . . . It's MIGHTY MARVEL MOVING MADNESS WEEK, wherein a record-breaking *seven* editorial teams played musical offices! First, Administrative Manager *Lynn Cohen* moved from the office outside Editor in Chief *Tom DeFalco's* designer digs to the duplex desk ten feet outside. Then, Exec Editor *Mark Gruenwald* moved his worldly goods into Lynn's vacated space. Next, Craig Anderson cleared out the office across the hall from Tom's so Mark's assistant editor, *Gregory Wright*, could take possession. Then the editorial team of *Bob Harras* and *Bobbie Chase* packed their desks and settled into Mark's and Greg's former fortress. That left Bob and Bobbie's creative crawlspace open for *Craig Anderson* and *David Wohl*. Got all that so far? Good, 'cause we're only halfway done. Then, *Michael Higgins*, *Mike Rockwitz*, and *Pat Redding* gathered up their bounteous belongings, and the two Mikes moved into departing Production Manager *Jim Novak's* airy abode, while Pat got a sunless, but single, office to herself. That enabled Special Projects Editor *Bob Budiansky* and his right hand man *Dwayne McDuffie* to headquarter themselves in the former Mikes' and Pat's office. Then, finally, the editorial team of *Ann Nocenti* and *Terry Kavanagh* (who for the whole summer have been exiled to another floor, because we were short on suitable office space) moved into Bob and Dwayne's coveted corner office. At last, the moving's done, the dust has settled, and Marvel's mighty editorial staff is all on one floor again! Hats off to Office Manager *Susie Ehrenreich* (who's never been mentioned in this space before — hi, Suze!) for coordinating the whole shebang. (Now, if we could only remember where we accidentally moved all of our artwork, we could publish a few comic books!)

PRO FILE: BOB HARRAS

Editor on: *X-FACTOR, INCREDIBLE HULK, G.I. JOE, G.I. JOE SPECIAL MISSIONS, G.I. JOE DIGEST, SPELLBOUND, INHUMANS GRAPHIC NOVEL*

Marvel freelance credits (past): *Issues of IRON MAN, THOR, AVENGERS, THING and ROBOCOP movie adaptation*

Marvel freelance credits (present): *The upcoming S.H.I.E.L.D. Limited Series*

My hobbies are: Spelunking, hang-gliding, diving off the cliffs of Acapulco, mountain-climbing in the Himalayas and (according to Joanne Spaldo) breaking hearts.

The single work which I am most proud of is: *THOR #356 and a parody of ROM I wrote and drew in ROM #50.*

My pet peeves are: *Munchkins, especially those who belong to the Lollipop Guild.*

My place of birth is: *Queens, New York*

My greatest accomplishment outside the comics field is: *Developing an extensive collection of knitted ties (which is the envy of Archie Goodwin) and the uncanny ability to lie with the best of them.*

My oddest habit is: *Sitting in such strange positions that people wonder if I have a spine.*

If they were making a movie of my life, I'd like to see my part played by: *Al Pacino.*

The reason I got into comics was: *I didn't want to grow up (and I've succeeded — ask anyone who knows me).*

People who knew me in High School thought I was: *Sardonic.*

My favorite performers are: *Bruce Springsteen and Mark Gruenwald (whose portrayal of Mr. Mature in episode #7 of "Cheap Laffs" is incomparable).*

The last good book I read was: *WAITING FOR CHILDHOOD by Sumner Locke Eliott*

The last good movie I saw was: *FATAL ATTRACTION*

The biggest influences on my work include: *Ralph Macchio, Jim and Tammy Bakker, the other Ralph Macchio, Joe Biden, Jane Austen, Donald Trump and, of course, the obligatory William Shakespeare.*

My greatest unfulfilled ambition in the comics field is: *To get my freelance work in on time.*

The worst part of my job is: *Listening to Chris Claremont read his fan mail out loud (and I'm not even his editor!).*

When nobody's looking I like to: *Look at myself.*

The one thing I really want the world to know about me is: *I never wear bow ties (despite what Ralph Macchio says).*

☑ Checklist

- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #253**
- ☐ **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #373**
- ☐ **WEST COAST AVENGERS #31**
- ☐ **G.I. JOE SPECIAL MISSIONS #10**
- ☐ **STRIKEFORCE: MORITURI #17**
- ☐ **SPELLBOUND Limited Series #6**
- ☐ **TALES OF G.I. JOE #4**
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #340**
- ☐ **SOLO AVENGERS #5**
- ☐ **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #299**
- ☐ **STRANGE TALES #13**
- ☐ **GROO THE WANDERER #38**
- ☐ **THE NEW MUTANTS #62**
- ☐ **ALPHA FLIGHT #57**
- ☐ **POWER PACK #36**
- ☐ **THE AVENGERS #290**
- ☐ **THE INCREDIBLE HULK #342**
- ☐ **MARVEL TALES #210**
- ☐ **SILVER SURFER #10**
- ☐ **THE UNCANNY X-MEN #228**
- ☐ **CONAN THE BARBARIAN #205**
- ☐ **G.I. JOE #70**
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #313**
- ☐ **IRON MAN #229**
- ☐ **THE 'NAM #17**
- ☐ **SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #137**
- ☐ **THOR #390**
- ☐ **X-FACTOR #27**
- ☐ **CLASSIC X-MEN #20**
- ☐ **THE TRANSFORMERS #39**

MARVEL BOOKSHELF

- ☐ **EXCALIBUR #1** — They're Marvel's newest and most amazing mutant team yet! Written by Chris Claremont, penciled by Alan Davis, and inked by Paul Neary.
- ☐ **THE PITT** — The future of the New Universe is changed forever! Written by John Byrne and Mark Gruenwald and drawn by Sal Buscema and Stan Drake.
- ☐ **ELEKTRA** Trade Paperback — The Epic Limited Series re-presented in one volume! Written by Frank Miller and painted by Bill Sienkiewicz.
- ☐ **IRON MAN** Graphic Novel — Story, *computer-generated art* and color by Mike Saenz.
- ☐ **THE OFFICIAL MARVEL COMICS INDEX TO THE AVENGERS #5**

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #146**
- ☐ **MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE #61**
- ☐ **CONAN SAGA #11**
- ☐ **G.I. JOE COMICS MAGAZINE #9**

Minutemen

Sy13nt Bob